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Coursing meet met by animal protests

BY RONALD FAUX

THE Waterloo Cup hare coursing meet opened at Altcar, Lancashire, yesterday with the annual exchange of unpleasantries between supporters and opponents of the sport. As a petition signed by 100,000 was being handed in at Westminster demanding an end to coursing, 200 objectors marched to the grounds where 7,500 enthusiasts were watching the opening contest.

Mounted police and a thick beech hedge kept the two sides apart. There was much shouting but no arrests. "It does not take much to make Altcar into Halt Carnage," one woman said. "This so-called sport is disgusting."

Sir Mark Prestcott, spokesman for hare coursing, said that the objections were made by people who simply did not understand the laws of nature.

BARRY GREENWOOD

Protest march: animal rights demonstrators silhouetted against the winter sun making their way to the Waterloo Cup coursing meet yesterday

INSIDE

Middle East talks falter

Middle East peace talks were in trouble yesterday after Israel presented a plan for Palestinian self-rule which the Palestinians called "an insult to anybody's intelligence".

Hanan Ashrawi, their spokeswoman, said the plan gave Israel the right to go on settling in the occupied territories..... Page 11

Fall in profits for Barclays

A 40 per cent surge in bad debt to £1.76 billion dropped profits at Barclays Bank to £533 million last year, dismaying the City and cutting its share price by 18p to 376p.

The bank lost 5,000 jobs last year, as part of its plan to cut 15,000 jobs within five years ..... Page 17
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Births plea

The scientific academies of Britain and America have issued a joint statement calling for action to limit the growth of the world's population..... Page 2

Carey rebuff

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, has rejected calls for a ten-year delay in the issue of women's ordination. The pleas were made by a group of parliamentary traditionalists in the Church of England Page 5

Country cash

A £20 million package of rural assistance, ranging from job schemes and protection for hedgerows to aid for wildlife, will be announced by the government today..... Page 6

Finns' lifeline

Finland, which is suffering from recession after the collapse of trade with Russia, will decide today on applying for full membership of the European Community..... Page 9
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Tax clamp

Poll tax inspectors across the land agree that, after successful experiments in some areas, clamping the cars of non-payers would be a good weapon in pursuit of £2 billion in unpaid bills ..... Page 16

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Irish High Court ban overturned

Rape victim wins right to abortion

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A GIRL aged 14 was yesterday given permission to travel abroad to seek an abortion after the Irish Supreme Court overturned a High Court ruling.

The family of the girl, who claimed she was raped by the father of a friend, had appealed against last week's ruling preventing her from travelling abroad for nine months.

The Supreme Court, which sat in camera, had not been expected to deliver its judgment until next week. However, Mr Justice Thomas Finlay, the Chief Justice, said: "The court is satisfied that this appeal should be allowed and the High Court decision should be set aside." The court would give a detailed ruling later and that is expected early next week. Any questions arising from the decision would be considered then.

The girl, who is in the 12th week of her pregnancy and whose mental health is giving cause for concern, was thought to be preparing to leave the country last night. It had earlier been disclosed in the High Court that her family were prepared to abide by any orders of the courts, but if the injunction preventing them from leaving the country was upheld, they would resume their efforts to seek an abortion outside the jurisdiction.

The case has generated unprecedented publicity in Ireland and revived the divisions that arose in 1983 when the Irish constitution was amended to uphold the right of the unborn child.

The court's decision came as a great relief to the government of Albert Reynolds, the prime minister, who was travelling to London for a summit with John Major when the news broke.

He said last night: "The judgment is welcome because it removed the uncertainty for the family and the 14-year-old girl. They are now free to do what they want to do."

Alan Shatter, Fine Gael's spokesman for justice, said it must have come as a great relief to the family. "No girl or woman who is the victim of rape should ever again find herself and her family put on trial in such circumstances and suffer such barbaric treatment at the hands of the state," he said.

He added, however, that until the judgment was handed down, it was not clear what action would be required to ensure that the events of the past two weeks were not repeated.

Des O'Malley, leader of the Progressive Democrats, said the implications of the decision for the referendum on the Maastricht treaty on European union had yet to be assessed. A protocol of the treaty, protecting Ireland's ban on abortion from European legislation, uses the same language as the constitutional amendment.

"In that regard," he said, "it is vital that no threat should arise to the successful adoption of the Maastricht treaty in that referendum, given its vital importance to the economic wellbeing of this country." The referendum is due to be held in Ireland in June.

Dick Spring, the Labour party leader, also welcomed the decision, but added that the underlying problem with the wording of the amendment was far from resolved.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children refused to comment until the full judgment was delivered. Des Hanafin, a Fianna Fáil senator and leading campaigner against abortion, said he always envisaged that the girl would be granted the right to travel. He said the court's decision meant the pro-life amendment did not need to be changed. "The amendment has proved now to be a good amendment, a compassionate amendment, sympathetic. It is obviously only dealing within the state," he said.

Three soldiers die in space centre riot

BY MARY DEJEVSKY AND NICK NUTTALL

THREE soldiers are reported to have been killed in three days of rioting by hundreds of army conscripts complaining about poor food and conditions at the Baikonur space centre in Kazakhstan.

Barrack blocks and warehouses containing food stocks have been burned and looted, but officials in Moscow insisted that the unrest would not affect the launch next month of a joint Russian-German mission to rescue Sergei Krikalev, the cosmonaut who has been stranded aboard the Mir space station.

Nevertheless, few are likely to view the events at Baikonur, a sprawling desert landscape of launch pads, assembly sheds, barracks and museums, with a more nervous eye than Mr Krikalev. In October, his original return flight was cancelled due to budget cuts. Last week he nearly lost his only companion, Aleksandr Volkov, during a four-hour space walk when his suit's cooling system malfunctioned.

There are contradictory reports about what sparked off the riots. According to one report from Baikonur, the rioting began on Sunday after an officer in charge of a construction brigade issued an order that violated the military statute. Another report said a Kazakh conscript working in the 17,000-strong construction brigade based at Baikonur had been detained at a military post in the city of

Continued on page 16, col 1

Hebbes: fighting for a place in Oxford eight

Boat Race rower dies in training

A MEMBER of the Oxford University rowing team has collapsed and died during training for the Boat Race.

John Hebbes, aged 19, a mathematics student at Oriel College, is believed to have had a heart attack after practising on the Thames on Tuesday. He was competing for a place in the team for the April 4 race and is believed to be the first Oxbridge oarsman to die in such circumstances.

Joe Michels, Oxford University president, said: "John is fondly remembered by his team mates as 'Doughboy' — a large, fun-loving young man with a natural talent for rowing and mathematics."

Death on Thames, page 2

South Africa celebrates cricket win

SOUTH Africa made a memorable entrance to World Cup cricket when they beat Australia, the pre-tournament favourites, by nine wickets in a day-night game in Sydney yesterday.

Australia, batting first, made a modest 170-9 off 49 overs. Kepler Wessels, the South African captain, scored an unbeaten 81 as his side won with 13 balls to spare.

A South African cabinet meeting was interrupted as the president, F. W. de Klerk, wrote a message of congratulations to the team.

De Klerk declares, page 10
Match report, page 28
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Major to back Olympics bid with £55m

BY JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

THE government is to give £55 million and big urban regeneration grants to help Manchester to secure the 2000 Olympic Games. Some £53 million will be provided immediately for a national cycling stadium and an indoor arena, and £2 million will go on supporting the bid itself.

John Major said yesterday: "We are going for gold, not least because in this competition there are no medals for coming second."

The money, the most ever given in one lump to British sport, will greatly help Manchester's attempt to secure the Games when the International Olympic Committee votes in September 1993. Peking, Sydney, Berlin and Brasilia are the main rivals.

Although the government's announcement cannot have hurt its election chances and staging the Games would help to regenerate east Manchester, Mr Major said there was "romance in my soul" about holding the event.

Part of the £53 million will be spent on preparing the site in the Bradford area of the city for the main Olympic stadium. The prime minister also commited the government to "substantial extra money" should Manchester win the vote.

Bob Scott, who is leading the Manchester bid, said that since the city failed to get the 1996 Games, which will be staged in Atlanta, it had been the city's priority to get the full backing of the government. "We are now a transformed candidate."

Sir Arthur Gold, the British Olympic Association chairman, said that the prime minister's statement was "the most heartening by a leader of the country since the 1948 Olympics."

Graham Stringer, Labour leader of Manchester city council said: "It is brilliant news for Manchester. This will attract significant levels of private sector investment and will create 3,000 jobs immediately and many more in the long term."

The Labour Party has said that it would match any money that the government has promised should it win the election.

The Games are expected to cost £1 billion. Huge television fees, estimated at £500 million for 2000, have made money for the Games for the last 44 years.

Government pledge, page 30

Meddlesome ministry drives dwarf up the wall

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

DEGRADING as it may be, a dwarf has every right to be thrown against a wall covered in inflatable mattresses if that is his chosen route to stardom — and Manuel Wackenheim has 10,000 francs to prove it.

M Wackenheim, who stands just under 4 ft, has been awarded the cash (about £1,000) in damages against the French town council that banned his "Mr Flyman" act from a local discothèque. He brought his case to challenge the state-led campaign to outlaw the so-called sport of dwarf-throwing. The interior ministry holds that the activity is degrading, and has been pressing mayors to clamp down on dwarf-throwing in their towns, invoking the European convention on human rights.

But M Wackenheim, aged 24, claims that such "meddling" is itself an infringement of his rights as an individual — a point even the state's lawyer had to concede at this week's hearing at the *tribunal administratif* of Versailles. Elisabeth Labarthe-Vacquien evidently convinced the bench that it would be rank hypocrisy if a handicapped person such as M Wackenheim was deprived of the right to earn a living from an activity that was not against French law, reinforcing the stuntman's claim that the ministry's intervention was robbing him of a chance to make something of his life.

"When I was just a handicapped young man, nobody took any interest in me," M Wackenheim complained. "Now that I am happy in my new job, these ministers want to interfere. That's what I would call degrading." In face of the hostility of the French Association of People of Small Stature and the minister for the handicapped, Michel Gillibert — who is himself disabled — he insisted on the right to pursue his own destiny. Now he has been supported by the tribunal, which ruled that the banning of his act amounted to an excess of power. Fun Productions, the organisers of the event that led to the case, were also awarded 10,000 francs damages against the municipality of Morsang-sur-Orge. The presiding magistrates concluded that an order preventing M Wackenheim from allowing clients to hurl him bodily against a wall protected by mattresses amounted to "an excess of power".

As far as can be established, M Wackenheim is France's only practitioner of this form of "entertainment" that arrived from the US and Australia. He claims to have been making 20,000 francs a month from his act before the authorities were alerted by his first appearance on national television. He staged a solitary protest outside the interior ministry, to the bewilderment of policemen stationed there. Nobody would see him without an appointment, so he left, vowing to fight on in his bid to "become a star".

Anglo-Irish negotiations seek to build on leaders' rapport

The relaxed relationship between John Major and Albert Reynolds will be put to the test by talks on Northern Ireland, **Sheila Gunn** reports

Reynolds: knows he can do business with Major

JOHN Major greeted Albert Reynolds, Ireland's new prime minister, at Downing Street last night as they began their search for a new initiative on the political future of Northern Ireland. The two leaders, who have met regularly at European Community talks, have made clear that they are willing to make the province's future one of the highest priorities of their administrations.

Advisers for both leaders said they hoped that the meeting would mark the start of a new era in Anglo-Irish relations. However, little progress is expected to be made before the general election.

A British government source said yesterday that "everything is on the agenda", with Mr Major prepared for a wide-ranging preliminary discussion on the way ahead, against the background of the continuing terrorist campaign in the province. Mr Reynolds has already indicated that he is willing to discuss the Irish constitution's commitment to a united Ireland as part of the negotiations.

Other ministers, including David Andrews, Ireland's new foreign affairs minister, Padraig Flynn, the Irish justice minister, and Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, joined the two leaders and British and Irish officials for a working dinner at Downing Street after last night's meeting.

Mr Major and Mr Reynolds know from their long hours at Ecofin, the regular meetings of Community finance ministers, that they can do business together. As important a guide to the relationship were their relaxed conversations away from the formality of the EC during the past few years, particularly while Ireland held the presidency.

The two men offer the rare coincidence in Anglo-Irish affairs of two leaders with a personal rapport intent on tackling a seemingly insoluble problem. They come out of the same mould: pragmatists lumbered with little ideological baggage, who came to office after the fall of dominant, and domineering, leaders.

If they do not allow themselves to be deflected by rhetoric, they have the scope for setting an agenda later this year to cover the governance of Northern Ireland, including forms of devolution; the evolution of the Anglo-Irish agreement; anti-terrorist measures, such as internment; and the role that could be played by multinational institutions, particularly the EC.

Other factors, however, are crucial in breaking the deadlock after the general election. First, Mr Major needs to win the election well, rather than be dependent on support from the Ulster Unionists. He must then select the "right" Northern Ireland secretary. The two mentioned as most likely to replace Peter Brooke are Chris Patten and John Patten, both Roman Catholics.

Chris Patten, as party chairman and former environment secretary, could expect a heavyweight cabinet post after the election if the Conservatives win well. The post of home secretary is the most commonly mentioned. However, a convincing case is made out by senior political figures in Belfast and Dublin for Mr Major to back up his determination to make Northern Ireland a top priority by sending his party chairman to take charge.

Chris Patten is remembered with admiration as the Northern Ireland minister for the environment. The only black mark he earned, temporarily, from unionists was to give approval for renaming Londonderry council as Derry council. He has always retained his interest in the province's affairs, and his despair at the failure to make headway. John Patten, after more than six years at minister of state level and the last four at the Home Office, is tipped for the cabinet. He served as a junior minister in Northern Ireland in the early 1980s.

Less welcome by some politicians would be Brian Mawhinney, the present security minister in Northern Ireland, or Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney-general. Both are regarded as being too close to the Unionist camp.

The progress of any initiative by Mr Major and Mr Reynolds would be influenced by any change in the constitutional position of Scotland and by closer European unity. Although the status of Northern Ireland rarely arose during the devolution debate in the late 1970s, the Scottish question is being followed closely this time.

Scientists call for action

Population growth 'threatens planet'

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE scientific academies of Britain and the United States have issued an unprecedented joint statement calling for action to limit the growth of world population.

The Royal Society and the US National Academy of Sciences warn that the future of the planet is in the balance. If the population continues to grow at present rates and patterns of human activity remain unchanged, "science and technology may not be able to prevent either irreversible degradation of the environment or continued poverty for much of the world", the statement says.

It urges the UN Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro on June, to consider human activities and population growth, in both the developed and the developing worlds, as crucial components affecting the sustainability of human society.

"Effective family planning, combined with continued economic and social development in the less developed countries, will help stabilise fertility rates at lower levels and reduce stresses to the global environment," the statement says.

"At the same time, greater attention in the developed countries to conservation, recycling, substitution and efficient use of energy and a concerted programme to start mitigating further build-up of greenhouse gases will help to ease the threat to the global environment."

Global population, now 5.4 billion, is expected to rise to 10 billion by 2050. About 95 per cent of the growth will be in the less developed countries, where 77 per cent of the global population lives.

Science may not be able to keep up with the demands of a growing population, the statement warns. "It is not prudent to rely on science and technology alone to solve problems created by rapid population growth, wasteful resource consumption, and harmful human practices."

Science can help, the statement says, by developing safe, easy to use, and effective contraceptive agents and devices; environmentally-benign alternative energy sources; improved agriculture; better public health, and research on biodiversity and ecological degradation. The statement is being widely distributed, and an international conference is being organised in the spring of 1993 by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences to discuss the issues.

Behind the scenes, leading scientists have been anxious that the Rio conference might avoid giving the population issue the central importance they think it deserves.

Following representations from the International Council of Scientific Unions and from several governments, including Britain, the danger appears to have been averted. Population problems will be discussed in Rio, though they will not be top of the agenda.

☐ American scientists have discovered that damage to the ozone layer is reducing the productivity of the oceans.

A team from the University of California, on a cruise in the Bellingshausen Sea in late 1990, measured increased levels of ultra-violet radiation as a result of ozone thinning, and reduced production of plancton. Reporting in *Science*, they say that in the marginal ice zone they found that plancton growth had been reduced by six to 12 per cent.

Sustained reductions of this sort would reduce the productivity of the entire ocean, since higher forms of life feed on the plancton. A secondary effect would be to diminish the rate at which carbon dioxide is absorbed, making global warming worse.

Greenpeace yesterday wrote to John Gummer, agriculture minister, warning that a five per cent reduction in plancton productivity could cause a seven per cent loss of fish yields, equal to a reduction of about 60 million tons.

The letter urged him and Lord Strathclyde, the Scottish fisheries minister, to join the call for an immediate ban on the chemicals that destroy ozone.

Heat and light come to the City

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE air quality and skyline of the City of London are expected to benefit markedly with the government's go-ahead yesterday for the Square Mile's first power station.

The 90MW. combined heat and power project, on which work will begin in two weeks, will be housed in the shells of architecturally important buildings on Charterhouse Street at Smithfield meat market. The plant will be powered by gas and diesel.

Apart from generating electricity for structures such as the Barbican arts centre, Guildhall, the Museum of London and Bastion House, the station will use its waste heat to supply customers with hot water.

In the summer the station will be able to supply chilled water for air-conditioning by operating its heat-recovery system.

The demand for air-conditioning for soothing people and computer systems has risen sharply, leading to outbreaks of cooling towers and other unsightly roof-top equipment to mar the Square Mile's skyline.

Colin Snowden, city engineer at the Corporation of London, said: "We are very keen to reduce the amount of equipment on roofs, which can be quite intrusive. This should go a long way to helping us tackle this problem."

The scheme, made possible by the corporation's decision to buy nearly 17 per cent of the station's output for 25 years, is being developed by Citigen, a company owned by British Gas and Utilicom Holdings, of France.

Charles Maillard, technical director at Citigen, said the station could operate at efficiencies nearing 90 per cent, which, combined with advanced flue-cleaning, would lead to much lower levels of air pollution than would be the case with a conventional power station.

"Concentrations of nitrogen oxides in the flue gas will be some 20 times less than on the street. By-passers will not even notice the station is there," he said.

Other customers are being sought for the station's electricity output, with those signing up for supplies of more than five years being supplied directly from the station. The station is expected to be in operation by next year.

Heseltine wins deal on global warming

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

MICHAEL Heseltine yesterday won cabinet backing to seek international agreement on more ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gases and to prevent global warming. But he failed to secure an outright commitment for Britain to stabilise carbon dioxide emissions at 1990 levels by 2000.

A meeting of the cabinet's Gen 4 committee, chaired by the prime minister, decided that there was little to be gained in Britain acting alone in adopting such a radical objective unless other countries were prepared to make similar efforts.

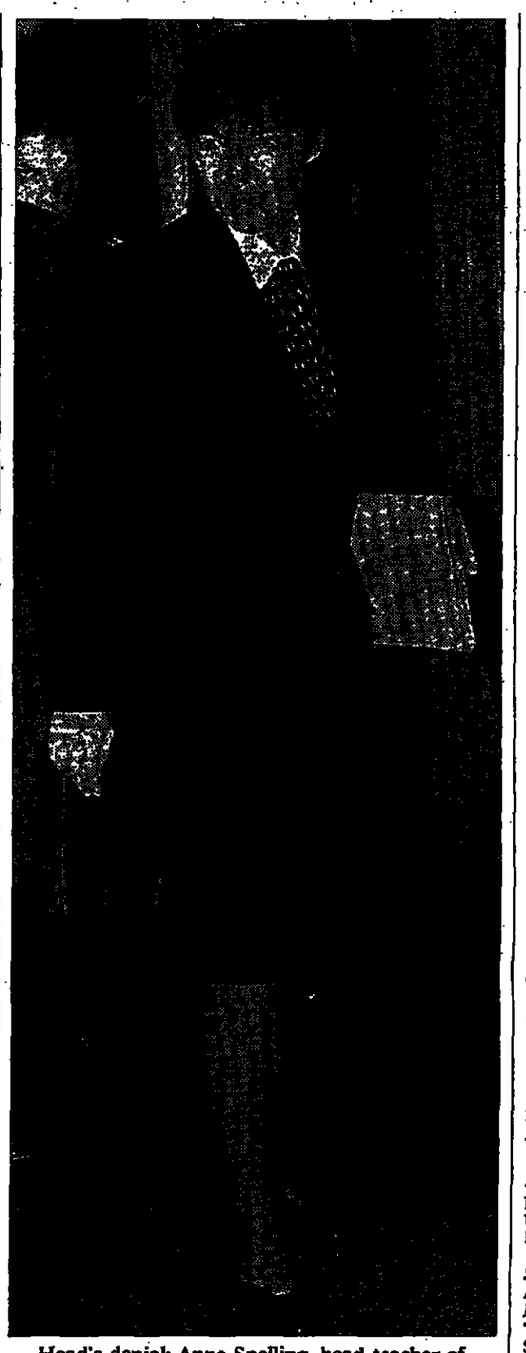
The 2000 target would have been five years earlier than that envisaged by Margaret Thatcher when she launched her initiative to reduce global warming.

The move has been opposed within the government by John Wakeham, the energy secretary, who has warned that it could undermine attempts to privatise British Coal. Germany, The Netherlands and Denmark have set targets which are apparently more ambitious than Britain's. Japan and the United States have set none at all.

Mr Heseltine will make his plea at a United Nations meeting on Monday which will prepare for the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June.

Last night's outcome appears to have been a compromise. Downing Street sources said: "What we want to achieve must be in concert with others." John Major was the first prime minister to announce that he was attending and is disappointed that a larger number of world leaders have not so far agreed to go.

There is scepticism within the government over the targets set by some EC countries. All are due to present their programmes to the European Commission in April, and ministers are said to be awaiting the reports with interest.



Head's denial: Anne Snelling, head teacher of Stratford school, east London, leaving Newham East magistrates' court yesterday after pleading not guilty to a common assault on Ghulam Shaida, chairman of the school governors, on January 6. The case was adjourned until May 6.

St Patrick 'lived in Battersea'

BY JOE JOSEPH

THE people of Wandsworth are trying to get God on their side by laying claim to St Patrick.

Pinning down Ireland's patron saint has always been tricky. He took Christianity to Ireland and died, it is thought, about AD461 in his seventies. Apart from that he is a bit of a mystery.

Nobody had spotted anything to twin the saint with the Tories' favourite London borough. All we knew was that he lived on his father's farm, near a place called Bannavem Taberniae. It's not much to go on.

But now Nicholas Fuentes, a Wandsworth archaeologist, says his research indicates that before St Patrick was seized by pirates at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland, he lived on a farm in Battersea that had a family link with Wandsworth.

Mr Fuentes says that all attempts have failed to locate Patrick's father's farm or Bannavem Taberniae, the nearby village where the saint's grandfather lived. He notes that there is an 1085 reference in the records of Westminster Abbey which reads *Batriceseye id est patricii insula* (Battersea, that is the island of Patricius). Battersea was once an island, close to Wandsworth.

Mr Fuentes then argues that the name of the settlement near St Patrick's family estate is the Latin accusative case of Bannavis — the horn river — which apparently describes the upper reaches of Wandsworth's River Wandle. Thus Patrick's grandpa, Potitus, lived in Wandsworth and Potitus's family owned part of Wandsworth and Battersea, including Patrick's father's farm. Got it?

But *Every Man's Book of Saints*, a companion to the Anglican *Alternative Service Book Calendar*, insists that: "Patrick ... was probably a Scotsman." So perhaps Bannavem Taberniae is nothing to do with Wandsworth but was one of those oddly named football clubs they have in Scotland, like Partick Thistle and Queen of the South.

Sisters are accused of murder

Two teenage sisters were remanded in care for seven days by magistrates at Solihull, West Midlands, yesterday, charged with the murder of Lisa Greenway, aged 14. The girls, aged 14 and 15, from Castle Bromwich, West Midlands, made a ten-minute appearance.

Two Castle Bromwich men also appeared in connection with the incident. Daniel Carr, aged 37, was charged with causing Lisa grievous bodily harm and Paul Green, aged 22, with using or threatening unlawful violence. Mr Carr was remanded in custody for seven days and Mr Green was remanded on bail for the same time.

Lisa, of Shard End, Birmingham, died on Monday after being stabbed in Castle Bromwich, three miles from her home.

RCA chooses new rector

Professor Anthony Jones, the Welsh-born director of the Chicago Art Institute, is to succeed Jocelyn Stevens as rector of the Royal College of Art. The announcement was made last night after a meeting of a committee drawn from the college senate and its council.

Professor Jones was director of the Glasgow School of Art for six years before going to Chicago in 1986. He was chosen unanimously from a short list of three. One of the other candidates was known to be Christopher Frayling, head of the faculty of humanities at the college.

Bigger splash, page 12

Hounds killed on main road

Motorists swerved to avoid a pack of hunting hounds that ran out of control over a busy dual carriageway yesterday.

The hounds, from the North Cornwall hunt, had been out at Lanhydrock. They were returning to kennels at St Breward when they strayed over the A30 dual carriageway at Bodmin and the A38 link road. "Police vehicles had to take avoiding action when they arrived on the scene," a police spokesman said. "But a number of hounds had already been struck by other vehicles and two were killed."

Ferry seized

Bailiffs acting for a Netherlands shipyard evicted passengers from a Solent ferry when it docked at Southampton and took possession of the ship, owned by Cowes Express. Passengers on the Wight Prince were given money to catch the rival Red Funnel service back to the Isle of Wight. Cowes Express said that it was hoping to resume its service after negotiations with the shipyard.

Parachute fall

A parachutist who fell 300ft after his chute failed to open died of multiple injuries after doctors and ambulance crew attempted to resuscitate him. The man, who has not been named, was pronounced dead at the scene after the fall, which happened near the Epping Forest Country Club, just north of the M11 in Chigwell, Essex. Emergency services were alerted by motorists on the M11.

Britons held

Two Britons have been arrested in Arrecife, the capital of Lanzarote in the Canary Islands, more than 300 kilos of hashish have been seized and a drug-smuggling ring has been broken up, police said there yesterday. The drugs were brought in two yachts from Morocco and were probably bound for Britain, the police added. There might be more arrests.

Army puts 3,500 on civvy street

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

NEARLY 3,500 officers and NCOs were given their orders yesterday to march out of the army into civilian life. They received the news of their selection for redundancy in early morning sessions with their commanding officers.

Few seemed to be signed up for instant jobs in the civilian world. Warrant Officer (2) Martin Batt, with 27 Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport based at Aldershot, Hampshire, has served more than 15 years and faced little prospect of promotion. He said: "I didn't volunteer for redundancy but as I had only two more years to do I put my name forward for possible selection."

WO Batt, aged 38 and married, hopes for a job in transport management. A friend, Staff Sergeant David Shepherd, aged 37, from the same regiment, is also being made redundant. He said: "I have spent 18 years of my life in the army. I didn't volunteer to leave but I reckon it's better to get out now before I reach 40 when it will be more difficult to get another job."

Under the defence review, 25 per cent of army manpower has to go by 1995. Of the 40,000 men and women who have to leave, at least 10,000 are expected to face compulsory redundancy.

French acquire a taste for le British sandwich

John Gummer says that British food is no laughing matter. **Michael Hornsby** reports

BRITONS should stop treating their food as a bad joke, and farmers and manufacturers should stop inventing excuses for their inability to sell it to foreigners, John Gummer, the agriculture minister, told a Commons enquiry into Britain's £5.4 billion food and drink trade gap yesterday.

"We have always made jokes about our food and they are a very effective way of implanting a national reputation," said Mr Gummer, who had been summoned to appear before the agriculture select committee. "There is a feeling — a sort of attitude — that British food is not the highest quality. It takes a long time to overcome that."

He cautioned against a "snooty" view of export opportunities based on the long-established success of such products as Scotch salmon and whisky. "The much maligned sliced white loaf is an increasingly important export for us because of the growing popularity in France of *le British sandwich*," Mr Gummer said.

David Curry, a junior agriculture minister whose wife is French, praised the quality of such British delicacies as the prawn-flavoured crisp and told MPs there was much scope in France for manufacturers of snack foods because of a continental shift to an "Anglo-Saxon browsing-and-grazing style of eating".

At earlier hearings of the committee, farmers and food manufacturers alleged that other European Community governments gave greater financial support to the production and promotion of home-grown food. Mr Gummer brushed these complaints aside, saying that on balance British producers suffered no handicap.

"We have to be careful about inventing institutional excuses for our lack of success ... The problem is that in certain areas we are not satisfactorily marketing our food products." One reason was the "I prefer-to-paddle-my-own-canoe" attitude of British farmers and their failure to form powerful marketing organisations of the kind found on the continent.

Curry: "Prawn crisps a British delicacy"

Mr Gummer said farmers in Denmark, The Netherlands and Germany had to bear heavier pollution control costs. French farmers had access to cheaper credit but had to cope with inheritance laws which divided the land between all the members of a family so that a farmer had to buy out his relatives before he could start in business.

Jerry Wiggin, Tory MP for Weston-super-Mare, committee chairman, asked Timothy Sainsbury, the trade minister, why food accounted for less than £1 million of the £167 million spent on export promotion. Mr Sainsbury said that a lot of the promotion was "multi-sectoral" and included food.

Food and drink accounted for 90 per cent of the national trade deficit last year and a study for the Safeway supermarket chain estimated last month that more than £3 billion of the gap consisted of food from other north European countries which could have been produced in Britain. Mr Gummer said that while he did not want to minimise opportunities for improvement, concern about the food gap was overdone.

Blurred border, page 6

Halcyon days end for banks

Deep job cuts at the banks have ended the days of a post for life and some of the perks, **Paul Wilkinson** reports

THE time was when a job at the bank was a job for life, supplemented with such perks as a mortgage at 2 per cent interest, a cheap overdraft and a lavishly equipped sports and social club.

Today much of that has gone. This week the National Westminster announced 4,000 job cuts and Sir John Quinton, chairman of Barclays, confirmed that it was well on target for shedding 15,000 jobs by 1995.

The Banking, Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu) refuses to agree that there was a gravy train, but admits that whatever it was, it has certainly hit the buffers.

Heather Tilston, a Bifu official, said: "We blame the banks' lending policy for the change in circumstances. In the boom years of the Seventies and early Eighties they expanded tremendously, lending money to anyone who asked and taking on staff to handle it. Now that policy is coming home and its the staff that has to take the fallout."

The union estimates that 24,000 jobs have been lost in the financial sector since 1990 and thinks another 25,000 will go by 1994. A CBI projection puts the loss 5,000 higher. "Banks used to be benevolent, caring employers, with an interest in their staff, but today they are aggressive and unfeeling," Miss Tilston said. Cheap loan money is still available for staff at enviable rates, but the interest charges are higher. Lloyds and the NatWest charge 7 per cent and Midland and Barclays ask about 5 per cent.

Bifu says that counts for little when the basic salary is so low. A school-leaver on the bank counter starts at about £5,500, while the manager of an average high street branch earns just over £30,000.

Pauline Hedges of the Banking Information Service, herself a redundant branch manager, said that the image of a job for life had long gone. "Once upon a time people never even changed banks, but today to be in the same place for 25 years is a negative point, demonstrating a lack of ambition. It is a different career ethos. The perks are still there to a certain extent: cheap loans, medical insurance, a car, but the taxman has got onto them."

Nichola Haynes of Barclays said that new technology often freed people to take up more rewarding jobs.

Barclays slips, page 17

'He was very full of life. He didn't really drink, he just did his rowing and his maths'

Rower dies training for Boat Race

BY JOHN GOODBODY AND RICHARD DUCE

A MEMBER of Oxford University's Boat Race squad collapsed and died while training with the rest of the crew on the Thames in what is believed to be the first fatality involving either university eight in the 164-year history of the race.

John Hebbes, aged 19, a second year mathematics undergraduate from Oriel College, never regained consciousness after complaining of dizziness and loss of vision before he collapsed at his oars near Moulsford on Tuesday. Crew members, including a medical student, a local doctor and a paramedic team failed to revive him.

A spokesman for Oxford police said that a post mortem examination yesterday had proved inconclusive and that the cause of death would be determined by further tests. It is understood that Mr Hebbes had an enlarged heart.

His mother, Rohan, speaking from the family home in Kingston upon Thames, southwest London, said: "It was one of his ambitions to get a blue for rowing. He was very full of life. He didn't really drink or smoke, he just did his rowing and his maths."

Mr Hebbes, who has a younger brother Luke, aged 17, was a former pupil of St Paul's School, central London. He had been rowing since aged 14.

Mr Hebbes had been knocked off his bicycle in Oxford earlier in the day, but he had been wearing a helmet and had carried on training. The crew was rowing at a steady pace when Mr Hebbes, who had undergone physiological tests with the rest of the squad ten days earlier, collapsed in the boat.

Although possessing immense potential, Hebbes, who was 6ft 8in and weighed more than 14st, had been struggling to be selected for the Blue boat for this year's race on April 4. He had recently been rowing in Isis, the second boat, but was included at number five in the senior Blue boat for Tuesday's outing, which started at Wallingford.

He was vying with Boris Mavra, a Yugoslav, for a place in the Blue boat, a contest which some believe that Mr Hebbes — regarded as a top rower for the future — had already lost.

Mr Hebbes had been in the Oxford crew beaten last Saturday by the London lightweight crew. He was one of three dropped when the Boat Race crew was named on Monday, although Steve Royle, Oxford rowing director, said that selection remained open and Mr Hebbes had still been in contention.

Joe Michels, president of Oxford University Boat Club, said yesterday: "John is fondly remembered by his team-mates at Oxford as 'doughboy', a large, fun-loving, young man with a natural talent for rowing and mathematics."

Rowing, page 28

JOHN SHORE

Fighting for honours: John Hebbes, fourth from left, rowing in the Oxford trial races in December and hoping to win his blue

Hebbes: natural rowing talent

Regime dominates waking hours

Daniel Topolski, Oxford coach for 15 years until 1987, examines the pressures faced by Boat Race oarsmen

THE death of John Hebbes has highlighted the pressures that Boat Race oarsmen face in today's highly-charged competitive atmosphere.

While there is no direct link between Mr Hebbes's death and the tough training programme that the rowing students are put through, the fear has always been present that an athlete could push himself just that little bit too hard and strain his heart. Not so, say the experts. An athlete in training, properly monitored, could never do himself permanent damage.

Boat Race oarsmen are among the fittest athletes in the country. Furthermore, Jurgen Gröbler, the new British national coach who took East German crews to 40 medals, now sets the Oxford training programme.

A Boat Race oarsman's work dominates his waking hours. At 7am he is in the gymnasium doing weight training circuits for an hour and a half or spending much the same time rowing on a land-based machine. He will run and cycle, and in the afternoon join his crew-mates on a long stretch of river to row 15 miles.

Any display of weakness, any faltering, and his chance of a place in the Blue Boat could be jeopardised. The pressure within the squad is intense. By the time he and his rivals are good enough to be in contention for a place, there will have been training at this pitch for three years or more.

They are spending up to six hours a day training and travelling to and from venues and time off is spent on strategy. The looming pressure of a big traditional event adds enormous stress to amateur student athletes with no experience at this level.

Under Jurgen Gröbler, Oxford has adopted East German methods which, although they require more training time from the athletes, works them at a lower intensity than in the past. His athletes are fitted with heart rate monitors to keep a close check on their daily progress and they are regularly tested at the Oxford Polytechnic's medical centre.

Robert Hebbes asked yesterday that his son's crew-mates in the Oxford squad should not interrupt their training. John would not have wanted all their work to go to waste. He would have wanted them to go on to beat Cambridge on April 4.

Murder case jury sees video

A video recording of a man being interviewed by police about the death of his former girl friend was shown to a jury at the Central Criminal Court, London, yesterday in what is thought to be the first use of the equipment in a British court (Stewart Tendler writes).

The prosecution showed the video of Paul Brown, aged 24, a security guard of Clapton, east London, denying repeated suggestions by detectives at Edmonton police station, north London, that he killed Elaine Long, aged 28, last year. Mr Brown has pleaded not guilty to a charge of murder.

£700m arrears

Almost £700 million in unpaid poll tax is still owed to Scottish councils, with £365 million outstanding for this financial year alone, according to figures by the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities. The largest percentage of unpaid bills this year is in Strathclyde, where more than 50 per cent of residents have yet to pay. Western Isles is second with 46 per cent of bills unpaid.

Plea for peace

A judge appealed for peace in Northern Ireland yesterday as he jailed a man and a woman for firearms offences. Judge John McKee urged people to listen to church leaders as he jailed Gregory Carroll, aged 28, of Armagh, for 22 years, and Ailish Carroll, aged 26, his sister-in-law, also of Armagh, for 15 years. They were convicted of possessing two loaded rifles with intent.

Plane deaths

Two people died yesterday after two light training aircraft owned by Iona Airways collided in mid-air over Cork. Both of the dead came from one plane while the other aircraft managed to land at Cork airport.

More families fall into debt

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

ONE household in eight falls into debt each year and gets behind with repayments, according to a new survey. Missed payments on rent, mortgages and credit cards reach more than £2,000 in some cases, although most of the two and a half million households involved owe less than £500.

A fifth of households get into arrears on regular expenses or on a consumer purchase but a third pay off the debt without difficulty. The total of problem debts at the time of the survey by the Policy Studies Institute amounted to £2 billion, or £90 for every household.

The survey report, *Credit and Debt*, estimates that households with arrears more than doubled from 1.3 million in 1981 to 2.8 million in 1989. The number with debts to three or more creditors rose fourfold from 130,000 to 530,000.

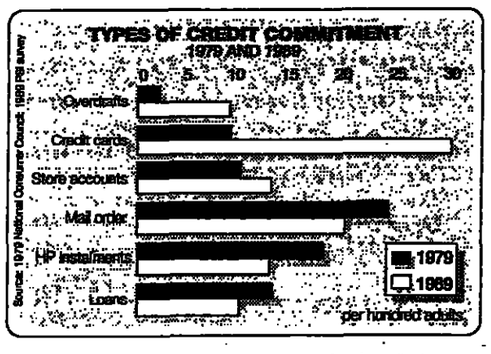
"The comparison seems to indicate that indebtedness grew over the 1980s and that multiple debt in particular increased at a worrying rate," the report says. There is little evidence that debt is associated with a consumer lifestyle, being more common among young families on low incomes trying to meet bills.

The survey found that regular household expenses account for two thirds of debts. Outstanding mortgages rose from £90 billion to £260 billion and by the end of the decade 300,000 mortgage holders, 3.3 per cent, reported problem arrears.

The study says that rent arrears are still the commonest form of debt, with 600,000 council tenants (18 per cent) facing problems keeping up their payments.

To help to reduce growing debts, the report says that advertisements offering credit should carry "health warnings" about the cost of repayments. Almost £50 billion is owed on overdrafts, credit cards and hire purchase agreements.

More than half of customers did not know what interest rate they were being charged and more than a third of hire purchase agreements did not require a deposit. More than a quarter of loans had been agreed without a check on ability to pay.



Task force to tackle child crime

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

A TASK force is to be set up by the home secretary to plan a strategy for combating criminal behaviour by children in the family, at school and on housing estates.

It is expected to advise the government on the best projects to be funded as part of ministerial plans to develop a third strand in efforts to tackle crime if the Tories win the general election.

Kenneth Baker told the conference of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation in Harrogate yesterday: "If criminal behaviour is to be nipped in the bud, it needs to be tackled in the family, at school and locally by those who first observe the problems; parents, teachers, churches and social workers."

The home secretary said that he did not have all the answers to identify those vulnerable to drifting into crime at an early age; and whether action could be taken without threatening to disrupt families.

He told the conference that family circumstances, including the criminality of parents and the quality of discipline given to children, were characteristics shared by persistent offenders. Some parents could not cope or were inadequate and he hoped they could be identified at an early stage and helped by statutory or voluntary agencies.

The task force, made up of police and probation officers, teachers, churchmen, social workers and voluntary agencies' staff, will advise him on the kinds of projects the Home Office should fund at a local level as part of a strategy which Mr Baker said would be "a long, long haul".

Writer takes bitter revenge

BY ROBIN YOUNG

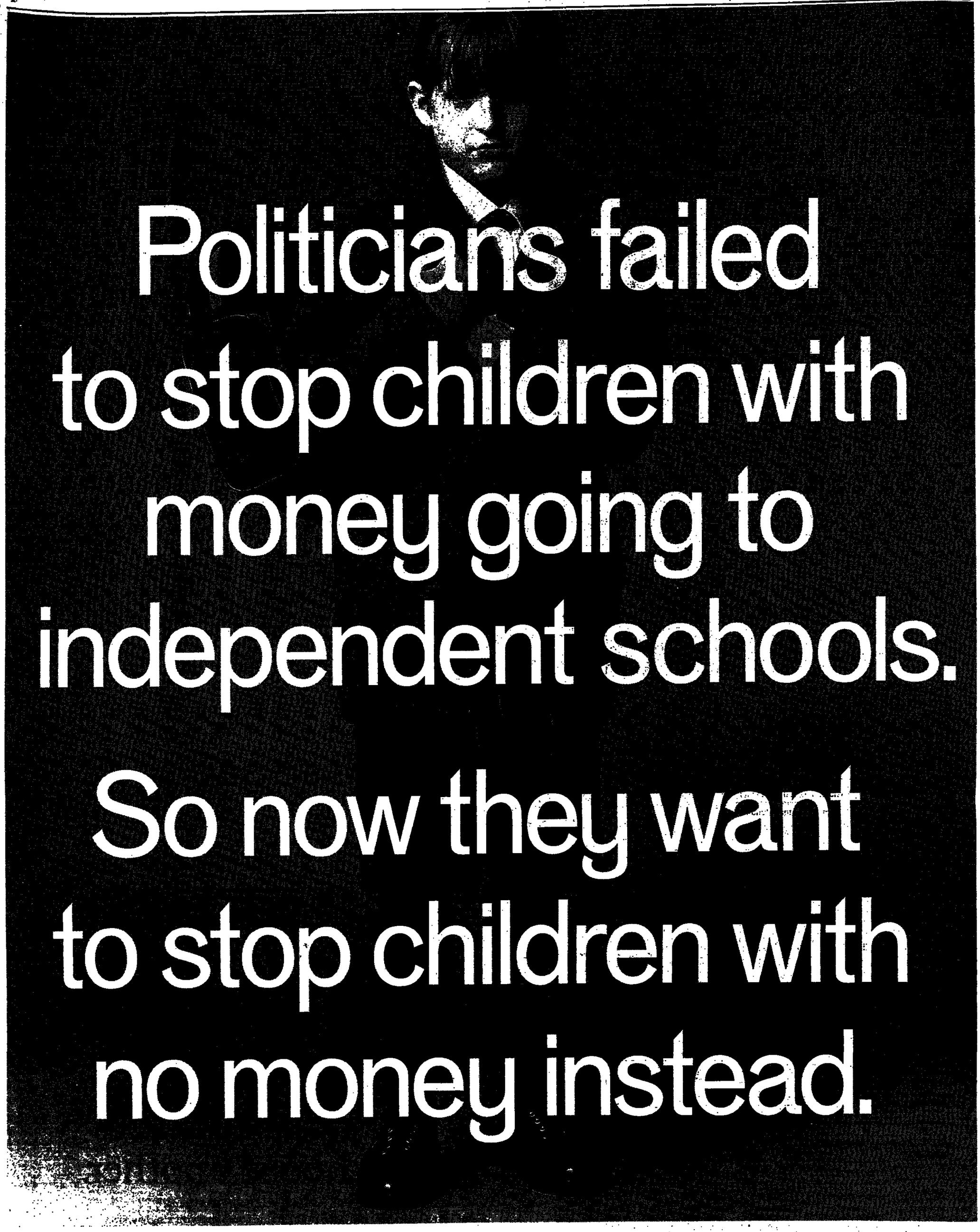
The romantic novelist Maureen O'Donoghue took a bitter-sweet opportunity to express herself freely in court yesterday, when she was accused of daubing her former husband's home with the words "bitch" and "bastard" in red paint.

Miss O'Donoghue admitted criminal damage, but added that she would not have bothered had she known about what she said was the reputation of her former husband's new girl friend, Sarah Farrell. She accused Miss Farrell of breaking up her marriage, and accused Bill Beckett, her former husband, of having left two previous wives. "Then he left me not just penniless but deeply in debt," she said.

Miss O'Donoghue, aged 54, of Dunster, Somerset, was given a conditional discharge by magistrates at Swindon, Wiltshire. A second charge, of assaulting Miss Farrell by covering her in red paint in a public house, was withdrawn by the police.

Miss O'Donoghue was ordered to pay £412.16 compensation and £30 costs. After the hearing, she said: "It was a fair verdict. I am now working on my next novel. There is bound to be a scarlet woman in it, and a roué."

Mr Beckett said later: "If privileged mitigation pleas are a licence to embroider the truth, then Maureen O'Donoghue used the system to full effect."



The last thing we want is to bring politics into education.

Unfortunately, the politicians just won't leave it alone.

2 of the 3 main political parties have pledged that, if elected, they will abolish the Assisted Places Scheme; even though 2 out of 3 people want to keep it. (Source: MORI poll.)

Today there are over 30,000 boys and girls on the scheme. Over a third of them come from families with an income of less than £8,714.

Two thirds of the families have an income of under £15,000. The largest groups to benefit are the unemployed and single-parent families.

And look at the results they achieve: 73% get A and B grades at GCSE. 48% got As and Bs at A level. Finally, 83% of Assisted Place leavers go on to higher education – and higher things.

All this costs the taxpayer virtually nothing.

The average Assisted Place costs £2,364; the average place in a state secondary school costs £2,180. Meanwhile, the independent sector saves the taxpayer over £1 billion by educating children whose parents have already paid the state through taxes.

So why attack such a successful scheme?

The best answer we've been able to get from Jack Straw, Labour's Shadow Education Minister, is that he wants independent schools to be only for 'snobs and eccentrics.' We don't know why.

It really seems that this is not logic but outdated dogma. No Labour or Liberal Democrat politician seems to be able to explain how abolition of this popular and successful scheme would improve State education even a jot.

But we don't want you to change the way you vote. All we ask is that you write to your MP and ask for a firm commitment to abandon this pointless policy.

It will cost you an 18p stamp. Not writing could cost Britain's talented children – and Britain – a lot more.

The Campaign to save Assisted Places.

YOUR CHILD DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A GENIUS TO BENEFIT FROM AN ASSISTED PLACE AT ANY ONE OF 295 INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND AND WALES OR 59 IN SCOTLAND.
TO FIND OUT HOW TO APPLY FOR A CHILD AGED 11 TO 16, PLEASE CONTACT SIMON MCVICKER AT THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS INFORMATION SERVICE. TELEPHONE: 071 630 8793. 56 BUCKINGHAM GATE, LONDON SW1E 6AG.

Call for a clear moral lead

Carey rejects halt in women priests issue

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of Canterbury yesterday rejected calls for a ten-year delay in the issue of women's ordination. The pleas came from parliamentary traditionalists in the Church of England.

Dr George Carey, responding to an open letter from parliamentarians asking the church to give a "clear and unambiguous moral lead", said that to kick the issue of women priests into touch for ten years would hardly be to "build upon all that unites".

He said there were difficult ecclesiastical issues concerning women's ordination, "but many Anglicans believe strongly that is is contradictory and damaging to the church to welcome the emancipation of women in the secular world and yet deny them ordination on the same terms of men".

The parliamentarians, mainly Conservatives from both houses, included John Gummer, the agriculture minister and a member of the general synod, and the Earl of Lauderdale, a trustee of the traditionalist organisation Church in Danger. Most of the signatories were members of that organisation.

Their letter spoke of clergy who feared that the church into which they were ordained may be disappearing and that the context of their ministry was being corrupted. "Many faithful now feel the Church of England has become so caught up in the race for change for its own sake, that we have lost our way," they said, urging a return to retreats, fasting and alms-giving.

They gave a warning of the virtual disappearance of *The Book of Common Prayer* from Anglican worship and said that the received truths from Scripture and the creeds were "in danger of being brushed aside".

Dr Carey's response was one of his strongest public statements and will further bolster his growing credibility as a man who can lead a unified church through the coming decision on women priests. He was due to arrive home from his visit to the Falkland Islands early this morning.

His staff issued his prepared letter to the key signatory, William Benyon, Conservative MP for Milton Keynes. While endorsing the traditionalists' emphasis on spiritual renewal, Dr Carey said things in the church are "not as they were" but the church was healthier in many areas. The church needed realism rather than "undifferentiated pessimism".

The Labour MP Frank Field, a member of Parliament's ecclesiastical committee and a supporter of women priests, refused to sign the letter.

If the legislation receives a two-thirds majority in each of the three synod houses of bishops, clergy and laity in November, a report will be prepared for the ecclesiastical committee. The legislation will be debated in both Houses of Parliament, where it must succeed to go forward for royal assent.

Woman in train fall wins case

BRITISH Rail was held 70 per cent to blame for what a judge yesterday called horrible injuries to a commuter who lost both legs when she fell between a platform and a moving train.

Diana Hill, aged 31, sat in her wheelchair in the High Court as Mr Justice French held that BR had proved 30 per cent "contributory negligence" on her part. The damages to be awarded to her will be assessed later.

Miss Hill, of Tooting Bec, southwest London, had said the train was stationary when she tried to board it at Wandsworth Common station, south London. She did not hear anyone shout a warning and claimed it started as she opened the door.

Andrew Drysdale, a British Rail guard, had told the court that Miss Hill tried to board the train after it had started, even though he shouted "Stand away". He had delayed operating the emergency brake because he thought she would make it.

The judge said that he did not accept that the train was stationary when Miss Hill tried to board. Nor was he satisfied that Mr Drysdale shouted a warning in time or that, if he did, Miss Hill heard it. What she did in trying to board a train that had begun to move must happen frequently on any busy suburban line. "The number of times that a train judders to a halt would be many if the emergency brake was applied every time." Nevertheless, the delay in emergency braking amounted to negligence.

ASADOUR GUZELIAN

Hark the herald: a boy shouts a greeting to the Prince of Wales who visited Manningham Housing Association, Bradford, yesterday. The prince, who is President of Business in the Community, discussed low-cost housing initiatives with the Bradford Common Purpose Charitable Trust

Mackay unveils checks on courts

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE biggest changes in the running of magistrates courts in England and Wales for nearly half a century were unveiled in a white paper yesterday by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern.

The reorganisation will include the creation of a courts inspectorate with lay members to raise standards of service, and a new layer of senior managers, paid according to to performance.

The Lord Chancellor will have power to intervene if any court seriously underperforms and the court committee responsible fails to act.

The white paper seeks to preserve magistrates' judicial independence, the erosion of which had been at the core of magistrates' concern over earlier proposals.

The courts will continue to be a local service but will be overhauled to improve performance. Lay people who are not magistrates will be involved in running the courts through committees.

Lord Mackay said the reforms were the "most important" in the organisation of the courts for more than 40 years. The new service would "demand and reward excellence" and would bring about a "less parochial service".

The white paper follows an announcement in December that the magistrates courts service would be transferred from the Home Office to the Lord Chancellor's office.

Its main proposals are:

- a new magistrates courts inspectorate;
- gradual reduction of the number of court committees in England and Wales from 105 to between 50 and 60;
- committees to have no more than 12 members including non-JPs, and administrative back-up;
- senior managers to head a team in each committee area, and be personally accountable to committees.
- regular planning and performance review.

Joyce Rose, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, welcomed the commitment to judicial independence but was concerned that the cost of the reforms would "prejudice" the amount of money available to the courts from this April when new cash limits are imposed.

A new Framework for Local Justice (Stationery Office; £3.35)

Laugh? Only if it clinches a sale

David Young, flicking through the pages of the salesman's manual, finds that the patter must run its course

"DON'T burst into tears," said the potential buyer of a soft drinks dispenser to the young lady who had arrived on his doorstep and spent 40 minutes trying to sell him something he never knew he wanted.

"Burst into tears?" she replied. "That's not in my sales manual for another two pages."

Her sense of humour won her the £200 sale and with it £40 commission, but also highlighted the techniques that the public now suspect companies of using, writing into their sales literature and programming into the minds of their sales personnel a series of steps which must be taken until the sales pitch ends.

Even if, as college lecturer Tony Phillips found when he allowed two double glazing salesmen into his home, an attempt is made to halt the hard sell by calling in the police and the salesmen is "asked to leave", the sales patter must run its course.

David Waller, chairman of the Institute of Sales and Marketing, said: "We all know of such stories. Everyone has their favourite anecdote about salesmen and, more often than not, double glazing salesmen. The conversation in some pubs would grind to a halt if it wasn't for the one about the double glazing salesman."

However, Mr Waller and his colleagues have checked the sales manuals used by every one of the 15,000 member companies of the institute to make sure that they meet the code of conduct that the institute enforces.

"It is important that we should emphasise that salesmen are in most cases doing responsible and important jobs and we are running courses at 70 colleges of further education on sales training," Mr Waller said.

"We are also working with the local Training and Enterprise Councils to make sure that salesmen are properly trained. We abhor what has happened in the case of Mr Phillips and must make sure that people in sales behave responsibly and ethically."

The company whose trainee salesman caused Mr Phillips so much trouble — he arrived with a colleague after a request for a quote for a double glazed door and left only after two hours, 15 requests to leave and the imminent arrival of the police — has apologised.

Jennifer Holt, a director of SureStyle of Bury, Greater Manchester, said: "We have recently re-staffed the Middlesbrough office and although we take care in choosing recruits, unfortunately occasionally people do let you down. It is not in our interest for representatives to upset potential customers."

£20m aid blurs the border between town and country

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A £20 million package of rural assistance to be announced by the government today will formally recognise that the English countryside is no longer fundamentally different from the town. It is becoming a land of commuters, light industry, job-creation schemes, bottle banks, ramblers and protected hedgerows.

A policy review launched by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, and John Gummer, the agriculture minister, includes measures to stimulate the rural economy, preserve its increasingly threatened landscape and wildlife, and cater for the growing demand for access to it. An initial £20 million over three years will fund the programme through English Nature, the Countryside Commission and the Rural Development Commission.

Action for the Countryside puts forward an official vision quite different from that *which produced the* 1947 Agriculture Act, the 1949 Town and Country Planning Act and the 1949 National Parks Act, which proves remarkably enduring: a world quite separate from the town. It reviews the entire range of rural policy and recognises the migration to the countryside of thousands of affluent town-dwellers with the traditional vision in mind. Population in rural districts increased by 27 per cent between 1961 and 1981, more than 20 times the rate of urban areas.

The other great change is in farming, intensified in the 1970s and 1980s under the European Community's Common Agricultural Policy and now to be scaled down drastically, with large job cuts and a vast amount of land to *be brought out of agricultural* use. The result is a rural economy where old rural practices play less and less part: in many areas, the main employers are services, manufacturing, distribution and catering industries. The policy review states: "Any notion that the economy of the countryside is fundamentally different from that in towns, being based on farming, forestry and raw materials, is now wide of the mark."

The core problem it recognises is how to keep this changed rural economy thriving: on the one hand, resisting efforts by affluent newcomers to "set the countryside in aspic" and, on the other, making sure that job creation is not detrimental to the environment. It recognises how *much environmental damage* has already taken place and the need to restore and preserve; and how much town-dwellers still need the countryside as a "green lung".

Leading article, page 13

SIX STEPS TO IMPROVE RURAL LIFE

☐ **The Countryside Employment Programme** (£3.6 million). A pilot scheme for selected areas to stimulate the economy and cope with job losses arising from agricultural change, in particular the reform of the CAP.

☐ **Rural Action** (£3.3 million). Grants of up to £2,000, plus advice and training, to be offered at parish level for environmental improvements, such as clearing ponds or setting up recycling schemes.

☐ ***Parish Paths Partnership*** (£3.8 million). Grants available at parish level to bring the rights-of-way network into good order by 2000.

☐ **Countryside Stewardship** (£2.9 million). An extension of the existing incentive scheme for the restoration of traditional habitats, now to include the grasslands of Devon and of Hereford and Worcester, and landscapes of historic significance.

☐ **Hedgerow Incentive Scheme** (£3.6 million). Grants to bring about better hedgerow management.

☐ **Wildlife Enhancement** (£2.3 million). In an addition to English Nature's species recovery programme, *six species* will be chosen for special protection: the red squirrel, the dormouse, the field cricket, the Essex emerald moth, the natterjack toad and the rough marsh mallow.

JULIAN HERBERT

On the rocks: stabilisation experts pegging nets to the cliffs at Tintagel Castle, Tintagel Head, Cornwall, yesterday as part of a six-day project to clear loose rocks that might fall and injure visitors

Minister blamed for rush to sell art

BY SARAH JANE CHECKLAND
SALEROOM CORRESPONDENT

TIM Renton, the arts minister, whose handling of arts funding was criticised by five former Arts Council chairmen in a letter to *The Times* yesterday, is now under attack from the heritage lobby.

He is accused of creating an unseemly rush to sell off historic art by announcing that he is considering producing a list of items that will never be allowed to go abroad. Heritage lobbyists say owners of fine works are queuing up to sell before the value is reduced by the introduction of a list. There is no plan to compensate owners caught by such a list.

Since the minister's proposal was announced two months ago, works by Holbein, Canaletto, Rembrandt and Zoffany have been rushed into the auction rooms. Mr Renton's intention to delay his decision until March 31 has horrified lobbyists, who fear national treasures will flood the market.

Graham Greene, chairman of the Museums and Galleries Commission, has written to Mr Renton, saying that he "cannot emphasise too strongly the destructive effect of continuing lack of action to address effective reform of our export control procedures". Britain's dominant position in the European art market would "inevitably be weakened should listing without compensation be introduced".

Sir Hugh Leggatt, a museums and galleries commissioner and a London art dealer, said yesterday that Mr Renton's procrastination damaged the interests of the art trade in Britain. "This is the behaviour of a very tired government if they cannot make up their minds about something as important as this. Clearly, Mr Renton needs a holiday," he said.

Lord Shelburne, president of the Historic Houses Association, said: "It is extremely unwise to have allowed this issue of listing pre-eminent works of art to have surfaced at all. Most people in a civilised country don't think it is right to confiscate without compensation."

Christie's has announced an April sale including a Holbein (valued at £20 million) owned by Lord Cholmondeley, *The Old Horse Guards, London, from St James's Park*, by Canaletto (£3 million), *Daniel and Cyrus before the Idol of Bel*, by Rembrandt (£8 million) and *Colonel Mordaunt's Cock Fight*, by Zoffany (£1 million). All the paintings are from British collections.

Mr Renton was unavailable for comment, but his office said that having announced a consultation period, he planned to stick to it.

Life-saving drug beats sex barrier

BY THOMSON PRENTICE
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A BREAST cancer drug for women is helping to save the lives of men suffering from the same disease. Male breast cancer is rare, striking about 250 men a year in Britain, compared to about 25,000 women.

Doctors at the Christie Hospital, Manchester, have studied the effects of the drug, tamoxifen, on men with the condition. The drug, one of the most effective treatments of female breast cancer, has been used after surgery and radiotherapy since 1976.

Gerald Ribeiro, consultant radiologist at the hospital, has found that five-year survival among male patients given tamoxifen has increased from 44 to 61 per cent during the past 15 years.

Dr Ribeiro said yesterday: "We don't yet know what causes male breast cancer. We and other centres are looking at occupation, genetics, diet, alcohol consumption and smoking."

The rarity of male breast cancer — which afflicts men aged about 65, compared to 55 for women — made it difficult for men to take seriously. "Some cannot accept that they may have what they regard as a woman's disease, so they don't seek treatment early enough. The disease has nothing to with their manhood," he said.

● Men whose puberty was delayed are at increased risk of fractures due to the brittle-bone disease osteoporosis, *according to the New England Journal of Medicine*.

Ear noise drove man to suicide

A suicide verdict was recorded yesterday on a police sergeant who shot himself to escape incessant tinnitus caused by a prisoner's punch six years earlier.

Sergeant Gerrard Carroll, aged 46, of Chigwell, Essex, served with the police for 26 years before the constant ringing noise drove him to take his life on January 29, Walthamstow coroner's court, Essex, was told.

His GP, Dr Andrew Briggs, said the sergeant had given him the impression that the condition "was driving him mad" and affecting his marriage.

Price of justice

David Blythe, aged 22, held in custody for almost a year, wrongly accused of murdering two elderly sisters near his home at Shaw, Greater Manchester, has won five-figure compensation from the Home Office. Another man admitted the killings.

Animals clear

Veterinary tests after a suspected foot-and-mouth outbreak near Carmarthen, Dyfed, have proved negative and restrictions on animal movements have been lifted.

Donor dogs

Owners of big, healthy dogs are being asked to offer their pets as blood donors by Michael Roger, a vet in Stroud, Gloucestershire.

Youths held

Seven youths were arrested after police found petrol bombs and weapons in raid on an estate at Brighton.

*PRICES CORRECT AT PRESS DATE EXCLUDES DELIVERY (£315 EX. VAT) ROAD TAX AND PLATES. EXPORT TAX-FREE SALES 071-409 0990.
† ABS STANDARD ON 1992 MODELS.

- 16 VALVES/FUEL INJECTION
- ANTI-LOCK BRAKE SYSTEM (ABS)
- CATALYST ON ALL MODELS
- 5 SPEED MANUAL GEARBOX
- ELECTRONIC IGNITION
- POWER ASSISTED STEERING
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Labour struggles to match the government's strength in depth

Morris: Labour's voice of experience

POLITICAL NOTEBOOK
By Robin Oakley

Here is one for Trivial Pursuit enthusiasts. Which of Labour's frontbench teams has the most government experience? Could it be Roy Hattersley and his four juniors on home affairs, or Bryan Gould's team on environment, or Robin Cook's on health?

The answer is the two-man team of lawyers shadowing the Attorney-general. John Morris was secretary of state for Wales from 1974-9. His deputy John Fraser was a middle rank minister of state for prices and consumer affairs from 1976-9.

Theirs is, intriguingly, the only shadow team in which more than a single member has previous experience of government. Even if you count Margaret Beckett, the shadow chief secretary to the Treasury, as part of John Smith's economic team (which Labour's official list does not) they are still outranked by the two lawyers. Mr Smith was in a Labour cabinet for just a year as trade secretary in 1978-9. Margaret Beckett was a parliamentary under-secretary for education from 1976-9.

It points up a problem for Neil Kinnock, who has never been even a junior minister himself (the nearest he got was bag-carrying as Michael Foot's PPS for a short spell). As the Tories will no doubt remind us nearer the time, he would enter Downing Street with one of the least experienced teams of ministers to come to office.

When Harold Wilson won power in 1964 after 13 Tory years he was able to include 12 former ministers among the 23 he sat around the table, including four who had served in a cabinet. By comparison only six of the elected shadow cabinet have any government experience: Roy Hattersley, John Smith, Gerald Kaufman, John Cunningham, Michael Meacher and Margaret Beckett.

Like the then Mr Wilson, Mr Kinnock has on his front bench four former cabinet ministers (I am not counting Stan Orme, who will be 69 by the time of the election and whose position as chairman of the parliamentary Labour party is not that of a shadow minister). Along with Messrs Smith and Morris the other two are Mr Hattersley (prices secretary 1976-9) and Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos (Welsh secretary 1966-8 and agriculture minister 1968-70). Now 75, Lord Cledwyn is the shadow leader in the Lords.

Of Labour's 82-strong frontbench team in the Commons (excluding 13 whips) only a dozen list previous government experience in *Dod's Parliamentary Companion*. Along with the three former cabinet ministers there are three who made it to minister of state: Mr Fraser, Gerald Kaufman (industry 1975-9), and the retiring Dennis Howell (environment and sport 1974-9).

Another six had their feet on the first rung of the ladder as parliamentary secretaries during a previous Labour government. They are Ms Beckett, Mr Cunningham (energy), Mr Meacher (industry, social security and trade), Barry Jones (Wales), Alf Morris (DHSS) and Jeremy Bray [power and Mintech]. If we are to count whips then three more would qualify after a spell of MP-minding during the Callaghan years: Peter Snape, Ann Taylor and Jim Marshall.

Only 29 of the frontbench team have even been in the Commons with a Labour government in power. And 26 of Mr Kinnock's frontbenchers are still in their first parliament. That underlines Labour's real problem, which is not at the top. Most impartial observers would agree that the shadow cabinet today can match the Major cabinet man for man and in some cases outpunch it.

The problem is lower down. Although they would probably soon put on weight with red boxes in their hands, there is not the strength in depth on the Labour side that is evident among the Tory ministers of state.

There are obvious exceptions. George Robertson, the battle-hardened No 2 spokesman on foreign affairs, would be worth his place in any cabinet. Nick Brown on John Smith's team would hold his own with the Treasury mandarins. Barry Sheerman and Alistair Darling have both impressed on Home Office issues. But few others would automatically be listed as likely to become cabinet material by the end of a parliament.

Does it matter? Conservatives will try to make it do so. With the gap between the main parties on policy much narrower than it was in 1983 or 1987, the focus is likely to be on the best team to take the country through a troubled period in the world economy. We will hear much of the line: "Well, who do you want representing this country at the international conference table: John Major and Douglas Hurd or Neil Kinnock and Gerald Kaufman?"

But the Conservatives have a difficulty. By overdoing the experience factor they would remind the country just how long they have been around. The "time the other side had a go" feeling is never too far from the surface.

Kinnock rallies party for election battle

By Philip Webster and Jill Sherman

CAMPAIGN FOUNDATION

LABOUR is to exceed its £6 million target for its general election fighting fund, the party's ruling national executive learnt yesterday as it cleared the decks for a campaign that all politicians expect to be under way in just over a fortnight.

The executive, at what is expected to be its last meeting before the election, cheered Neil Kinnock after he told them in a confident rallying call that Labour was "ready to run, ready to win and ready to serve."

He promised a "practical programme" to tackle the recession and said that a Labour administration would be a revelation to the people, offering "good, honest, open, purposeful" government.

Mr Kinnock spoke as expectations of a Budget increase in borrowing dominated the day's campaigning. Labour and the Liberal Democrats united in opposition to income tax cuts as senior figures in both parties hinted that they would accept the level of borrowing set by the government and use the money instead to finance investment. John Smith, the shadow chancellor, claimed that reductions in income tax would have to be swiftly clawed back if the government was to balance its books.

Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, attacked Labour's plans. "I don't know of anybody who thinks you can stimulate the economy by putting up taxes," he said. He indicated, however, that the government did not see spending on education or training, two key pledges of the opposition parties, as an immediate priority. Spending in these areas, while producing benefits in the long term, would not produce a "short-term surge to stimulate the economy", he said.

Mr Smith claimed there was a £33 billion hole in the plans of Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, as he sought to reach the government's "fundamental objective" of balancing the budget by 1996-7. The shadow chancellor said that with a predicted £23 billion public sector deficit and the £10 billion cost of cutting income tax to 20p in the pound, Mr Lamont had a £33 billion gap to make up. The only way to fill it was for the economy to grow by at least 5 per cent a year, implausible given the government's record of growth of just 1.7 per cent since 1979.

Alan Beith, the Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, said it was an illusion to imagine that income tax cuts would give the economy a serious stimulus. If the government borrowed money to enable people to repay their personal debts it was engaging in madhouse economics.

As the Labour executive put the last candidates in place for the election, Larry Whitty, Labour's general secretary, said the party was better prepared than ever before in every constituency because of the dry runs of last June and November. Labour's election finances have been boosted by much higher than expected donations from party supporters.

According to senior party officials, the electioneering atmosphere of recent weeks has meant that the party's normal fund-raising activities have increased sharply. "Receipts have shot up," said one. At the party's big fundraising dinner two weeks ago, there was one single donation of £10,000, it was disclosed.

Mr Kinnock and his colleagues were buoyed by the latest ICM opinion poll showing the party three points ahead. He told them: "If the government was to run away again from April 9 it would turn certain defeat into certain annihilation, because the British people would understand that they were continuing their game of fast-and-loose for yet another month."

He predicted that the election would be fought on the issues on which Labour was strongest and had the most appeal. "We will win on health, we will win on education, we will win on our programme to end poverty, we will win on our policy for protecting the environment."

☐ Michael Heseltine yesterday attacked Labour's "muddled and confused" plans for devolution and regional assemblies, saying they would lead to higher taxes. "Labour claim they would seek consensus for their assemblies, but clearly none exists. Would Labour impose their regional assemblies against the will of local people?" he asked.

The party's plans to allow assemblies to vary the levels of local taxation were tantamount to introducing a regional tax, he said. "All Labour's plans fly in the face of experience and good sense."

Reversal of water sell-off promised

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

LABOUR yesterday reaffirmed its proposals to renationalise the ten regional water companies. At current market prices this could cost the taxpayer up to £8 billion.

The pledge from Ann Taylor, the shadow cabinet minister responsible for water, quashed speculation that the Opposition was about to retreat further from its plans to reverse privatisation.

Mrs Taylor left herself sufficient elbow room to downgrade further her party's sole remaining big renationalisation pledge in the coming election campaign. She said: "In terms of taking the water industry back into the public sector, we still think that that is appropriate because water is too important to be left as a private monopoly."

Labour has not yet fixed on a time scale for renationalising an industry privatised three years ago, nor has it agreed a mechanism for taking it back into public ownership, Mrs Taylor added, in remarks that will be seen as betraying her party's uncertainty on the issue.

According to figures produced by Conservative Central Office, it would cost the Exchequer £7.96 billion to buy back all the water shares at current market values. Buying a 51 per cent controlling stake would cost nearly £4 billion. Mrs Taylor said that £8 billion was not Labour's estimate of the cost. "We cannot talk about figures until we decide the actual structure and the way in which we would take water into the public sector."

She said that Labour was still talking to its City advisers about "a range of options". "But none of them have suggested that taking water back into public ownership would require a [cost] of that kind."

Mrs Taylor's remarks came at a Westminster press conference in which she attacked the privatised water companies for forcing customers to accept water meters. In parts of the country where there had been trials of water meters, some bills had gone up by three or four times. She promised that Labour would make metering an option for domestic consumers. The long-term answer lay in tying water bills to the rateable values of properties.

David Trippier, the environment minister, later dismissed Labour's plans as "a complete muddle". They were unable to tell taxpayers how big the bill would be for this "last gasp of state socialism".

In November, Labour abandoned its plans to renationalise British Telecom by taking a controlling stake in the company. At the same time, Gordon Brown, its shadow trade minister, indicated that the water pledge was being kicked into touch.

ADRIAN BROOKS

Straw poll: Labour's education spokesman, Jack Straw, talks to a student after his press conference yesterday

Education reforms pledged

By John O'Leary
Education Correspondent

LABOUR promised to end the "jungle" of examination and training systems that confront school-leavers. Jack Straw, the shadow education spokesman, said too many were deterred from staying on at school or going into training.

At a London School of Economics news conference he said Labour would introduce laws to ensure that no 16-year-old leaves school and goes into work without training for recognised qualifications.

Meanwhile, a survey by Mori for the Independent Schools Information Service showed that almost 40 per cent of families receiving government help with independent school fees earn less than £10,000 a year.

The survey showed that two-thirds of pupils supported by the Assisted Places Scheme in 1989-90 came from families earning less than the national average of £15,000. The figures were published a day ahead of a debate on the scheme. Both opposition parties are committed to phasing out the scheme.

Mr Straw claimed that the survey confirmed his criticism of the scheme since it showed that 60 per cent of assisted pupils had middle class backgrounds.

"Parents are fully entitled to send their children to private schools if they wish. But the assisted places scheme raises the quite separate issue of whether the state should be paying the higher fees of pupils in those private schools at a time when resources for state schools are so squeezed."

Mellor gives warning of return to high inflation

By Peter Mulligan and John Winder

THE prospect of economic recovery would be jeopardised by rising inflation and interest rates if Labour won the election, David Mellor, chief secretary to the Treasury, told MPs yesterday during a debate on inflation.

Margaret Beckett, the shadow chief secretary, accused the Conservatives of a "Jekyll and Hyde" approach to inflation control.

In a speech which Tory MPs continuously applauded, Mr Mellor predicted that the high inflation of the 1970s — "funny money chasing massive prices" — would return if Neil Kinnock became prime minister. He said stable prices were in sight now so as long as the policies that had brought them about were adhered to.

Mr Mellor described Labour as the party of devaluation and mocked the assertions of John Smith, the shadow chancellor, that he would not devalue. He brushed aside taunts about the government letting inflation rise for the second time in a decade. "Any increase in inflation to a peak of 10 per cent two years ago is nothing compared to the record of 25 per cent under Labour."

Mrs Beckett said that the government had chosen to debate lower inflation and interest rates because they could boast of nothing else, with soaring unemployment, house repossessions and bankruptcies, plummeting investment and negative growth.

Reviewing the government's economic record, she said that two years after the 1983 election, flush with money and rhetoric, companies and individuals had gone on a credit spree while the government went on feeding inflation, cutting money for public sector housing, forcing councils to increase rents, insisting on price increases for gas and then for electricity and water, to prepare for privatisation. They had pushed up interest rates and kept them up while mortgage debts increased.

When Philip Oppenheim (Amber Valley, C) asked whether Labour would change interest rates to keep sterling within the ERM bands, she replied: "We have long expressed the view that if the exchange rate is properly managed there is no need."

Mr Mellor said that the reply was an extraordinary "cop-out" and Mrs Beckett would not hold Treasury office for ten seconds if she could not improve on that.

Mrs Beckett replied: "He seems to have managed it."

Growth had gone down last year by 2.5 per cent, the worst figure in a calendar year since the depression of the 1930s. "Three thousand jobs have been lost every day since the prime minister got his new job," Mrs Beckett said.

The classic definition of inflation was too much money chasing too few goods, but this government had relied solely on money supply to control it, ignoring supply of goods and services and leaving that to the market.

Mrs Beckett repeated that Labour would maintain the exchange rate, and when Conservative MPs shouted "How?", she replied: "We must maintain low inflation and stable conditions so that business can plan ahead and address supply side failures, and above all they would avoid inflationary own goals."

Shrinking pound: Mellor predicts that a Labour government would hit economic recovery

AROUND THE LOBBY

Debate on health 'silenced'

Labour yesterday demanded a government statement on the postponement until after the election of the white paper setting new national targets for reducing premature deaths from heart disease and cancer.

Robin Cook, the shadow health secretary, said the decision to shelve *Health of the Nation* showed that health promotion came bottom of the cabinet agenda. "The real reason Chris Patten has put a muzzle on William Waldegrave is that he wants to keep health out of the news. The Tory party knows they have lost the argument over the NHS and that their only hope is to silence the debate."

Teachers' pay

Teachers' salaries have risen by 36.2 per cent in real terms since the government came to power in 1979, Michael Fallon, the education under secretary, said. The average salary is now £18,320 and the latest award will add 7.8 per cent to the wages bill.

Bill returns

For the eighth time Jeremy Corbyn, Labour MP for Islington North, introduced a bill aimed at eliminating poverty in retirement. It would abolish standing charges and television licence fees for pensioners and link pensions to average earnings. It has no chance of becoming law.

Tourist count

Eric Forth, the employment under secretary, issued figures showing that about 18 million tourists and others visited the UK in 1990 and spent about £7.7 billion.

Aid cash up

Britain's contribution to the EC's overseas aid budget has risen by 25 per cent in real terms to £333 million since 1979, Lynda Chalker, overseas aid minister, said.

Food for needy

The government is asking charitable and other non-profit making organisations to apply to distribute surplus EC butter and beef to the needy.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Northern Ireland; prime minister. Debate on Welsh affairs.
Lords (3): Local Government Finance Bill, third reading.

MP challenges Tory policy on Scottish devolution

By Jill Sherman
Political Correspondent

A CONSERVATIVE MP embarrassed the government in the Commons yesterday by openly challenging its refusal to consider devolution in Scotland.

While Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, maintained a robust defence of the union, a Tory backbencher urged him to discuss a better solution for the future in the face of dwindling support in Scotland.

Voicing the private views of a number of Tories, Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch, reminded Mr Lang that ever since 1975 support for the Tories had declined in Scotland. "After listening to the arguments for more than 20 years some of us still find the argument of Lord Home (in favour of devolution) rather more seductive than that of Mrs Thatcher," Mr Adley said. "Surely our party is in favour of decentralisation? " he asked. "After the election is it not possible to initiate some sort of discussion which enables us to arrive at a solution which is acceptable to most people?"

Refusing to answer the question directly, Mr Lang admitted that the principle of devolution was important to the Conservatives. He reminded Mr Adley that in 1979, after the last time the issue was addressed — and support for a devolved assembly fell — the strength of the Scottish Conservative party had risen "very considerably".

Earlier, during what was probably his last Commons question time before the general election, Mr Lang reinforced the government's opposition to devolution.

Donald Dewar, the shadow Scottish secretary, asked for clarification of the prime minister's remark that he was "taking stock" of the situation. "Does such a defence as far as you and your party are concerned rule out now and in the future any form of directly-elected body for Scotland?" Mr Dewar asked. Mr Lang said: "Our position is absolutely clear ... we are determined to maintain Scotland's full place as an equal partner in the UK and to create no bodies which would fragment or undermine that position."

The government intends to further underline the electorate's choice between unionism and devolution by encouraging a debate on home rule in Wales. David Hunt, the Welsh secretary told journalists that the Welsh grand committee would debate devolution and the meeting, expected on March 9, would take place in Cardiff. Motions were expected to be put down in the House today to enable the meeting to take place for the first time outside Westminster. "I am anxious to extend and widen the debate," he said.

Pressed on how the Tories would strengthen the union, Mr Lang said at the same press conference that this would be done through economic development across the UK.

Major investment in the 1970s and 1980s should be built on by keeping tax rates down and inflation low, he said. Scotland had "derived enormous benefit by sound management of the economy". For every four companies trading in Scotland in 1979, there were now seven.

Mr Lang hinted that more civil servants could be deployed from London to north of the border, but would not be drawn on whether any "Westminster business" could be transferred to Scotland.

Finns ready to join EC after Russian trade slumps

FROM OLLI KIVINEN IN HELSINKI

FINLAND'S centre-right coalition government will decide today to apply for full membership of the European Community and hopes to be able to conduct membership negotiations in parallel with Sweden and Austria.

The government will issue a statement to parliament setting out Finland's aims and hopes. The application will be delivered after March 18 when parliament has debated and voted on it.

Finland has been able to get rid of the Stalin era friendship pact, which the Soviet Union used to put pressure on Helsinki, but the country has been affected by Europe's tumultuous developments and the collapse of the status quo, which have brought benefits for most other countries.

During the 1980s, Finland's economic growth was among the highest in developed industrial countries and lifted the country among the richest nations. Trade with the Soviet Union ran smoothly and cushioned the economy against fluctuations in the Western market. Membership of the Community was no issue because neutrality and closeness to Moscow ruled it out.

Now all that has vanished. Trade with Russia has collapsed and Finland is in the middle of the worst recession since the hunger years in the 1860s. GNP fell 5 per cent last year. The revered neutrality lost its meaning just as Helsinki was able to gain universal acceptance for it. Finland has found itself in the position of a normal, faraway Nordic country. The Scandinavian welfare society model itself is in danger because of rising costs.

After the end of the Cold War, Finland sought shelter in the European Economic Area proposed by Jacques Delors, the European Commission president. Willingness to join as a full member began to grow day by day after it became obvious that the negotiations between the Community and the European Free Trade Association to establish the economic area ran into one problem after another. Most Finnish leaders now admit the area can only be a temporary solution.

The rapid change brought difficulties, especially to the leaders of the main coalition partner, the Centre (formerly Agrarian) party of Esko Aho, the prime minister. They have worked hard for months to convince their farmer supporters that Finland must join. Most of the farmers oppose full membership, fearing that it will wipe out Scandinavian agriculture.

The second biggest coalition party, the Conservatives, is all for membership, and it has pushed the reluctant Centre party hard towards accepting membership. The third group in the coalition, the Swedish People's party, supports membership. The Christian Union party is against, and it is likely its lone minister must resign. The main opposition party, the Social Democrats, also supports quick membership.

The decision to apply for membership has been certain for several weeks since President Koivisto threw his weight behind the move early this month.

Leading article, page 13

Five sign Europe peace pact

BY OLLI KIVINEN

FIVE republics of the former Soviet Union officially joined the European security conference yesterday when their presidents signed the Helsinki final document in the Finlandia hall, Helsinki, where it was originally adopted in 1975.

All ten countries which were admitted to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) last month were invited but only five presidents came to Helsinki. Russia does not need to sign as it is the Soviet Union's successor state, and Georgia has not applied.

The occasion turned into a protocol planner's nightmare, which gave an indication of the difficulties that can be expected when the next CSCE follow-up conference begins in Helsinki at the end of March with 48 states present instead of the original 35. Some of the new republics are in Asia, and they have almost no experience of running a foreign policy.

Finnish officials did not have exact advance information on which presidents were coming or when. President Kravchuk of Ukraine arrived yesterday, while the presidents of Belorussia, Moldavia, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan arrived on Tuesday.

President Kravchuk said at a press conference that he is confident that Ukraine and Russia can solve their disagreements in the next Commonwealth of Independent States meeting in Minsk on March 20.

Raiders grab food aid

FROM REUTER IN TIRANA

AT LEAST two people were killed when thousands of Albanians raided food warehouses. The state radio said yesterday that the rioters took stocks of foreign food aid in Pogradec on Tuesday and were still attacking a day later. At least two people were suffocated in the crush.

Police fired shots to disperse the attackers but had to retreat yesterday morning, the radio said. Military reinforcements were requested in Pogradec, 50 miles southeast of Tirana.

Albania's three million people have endured a winter of chronic shortages as the economy, ruined by 40 years of stalinist isolation, teeters on the verge of collapse. The country's second free general election, originally scheduled for March 1, is due to be held on March 22.

A year ago, inexperienced democrats won less than a third of the seats in parliament while former communists captured the majority. "This is the campaign for the final victory over communism and for the establishing of democracy," Sali Berisha, the Democratic party leader, told a cheering crowd of 15,000 as he opened his campaign yesterday in Tirana. "The Democratic party will win because it succeeded in one year in returning basic human rights to Albanians."

Ground for suspicion: a policeman searching for clues after a bomb wrecked a police bus in Athens yesterday, injuring 18 riot policemen

Gorbachev banks on fast buck

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

MIKHAIL Gorbachev said in a television interview broadcast yesterday that he now did the shopping and lamented that money went nowhere in the new Russia.

"As soon as I started going to the shops, I realised that was 500 roubles gone straight away," the former Soviet president complained. "What I'm thinking now is — that's enough. It's time I earned some dollars to support my family," he said.

"Raisa and I, we receive all the bills ... we pay them. ... out go the cheques and last month we calculated we'd spent 3,900 . That's my entire pension," he said.

Mrs Gorbachev spoke of the strain her husband had endured during his leadership: "To understand Mikhail Sergeyevich fully, you must understand what he embarked on ... the decisions he took. If anyone knew how much we suffered during those seven years, all the sleepless nights, the countless dangers, the worries."

The interview was broadcast by ITN, whose Moscow reporter, Penny Marshall, joined a French television team for the encounter. The film illustrated the more modest life the couple are now leading. Mr Gorbachev still has his ZiL limousine and bodyguards. But he was shown being driven unescorted, and drinking with friends.

City seeks UN stamp of approval

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

EVER since a Christian stonemason named Marinus fled to the Apennine mountains to escape religious persecution by the Roman emperor, Diocletian, in the fourth century AD, the city-state he founded atop Mount Titano, in northeastern Italy, has enjoyed a splendid isolation. But now San Marino, named after St Marinus, whose remains are interred in a local church, is stepping out on to the world stage.

The world's oldest republic has asked to join the United Nations, and has already won the security council's support. The full 166-nation UN General Assembly is due to approve its admission on Monday, along with that of eight former Soviet republics — Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kirghizia, Armenia, Moldavia, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan.

Totally surrounded by Italy, San Marino is best known as a tourist attraction and the producer of colourful stamps. The republic has its own government, judiciary, taxes, police force and even car licence plates. But it has a population of only 24,000 and covers just 23.6 square miles. Diplomats say San Marino decided to apply for UN membership after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, when the UN showed itself to be a staunch defender of the sovereignty of small states.

LISBON NOTEBOOK by George Brock

Soundbite envoy dreams of a move

He wears a red cardigan under a grey pinstripe suit, and his hair a little longer these days. But Gennadi Gerasimov is still recognisably the man who put the soundbite into Soviet politics.

Mr Gerasimov was the marketing manager of the Gorbachev revolution, mixing mocking quips with marxism. He fought the last battles of the Cold War with a charm offensive on television chat shows.

Gerasimov: mixing quips with marxism

He still speaks in small, perfectly-formed quotations, watching for reactions to his indiscretions or neat phrases. Mr Gerasimov arrived in Portugal last spring after losing his footing as the communist system fell apart. He said little in public about August's abortive coup, and then smoothly altered from Soviet to Russian ambassador.

"It was my little trauma," he said, "I started with 15 republics, but kept losing them. Each morning I would count how many were left." His staff do consular work for the new-born republics, which may in time want their own embassies. "We have this childish disease of sovereignty ... It will go away with age."

The ambassador is plainly bored and dreaming of new postings. He talked wistfully of rumours in the American media that he would take over the Washington embassy. "I have had six invitations to England since I have been here. They still remember me."

Portugal took over the rotating presidency of the European Community in January — with the accompanying bills. Next to the graceful white pinnacles of the Jeronimos monastery rises a squat new conference centre. The square holes on the outer walls prevent damp but, unfortunately, rats find them perfect entrances. The cost of the building is far more than was estimated and MPs want to see the books.

The economy is effectively run as a joint venture with Brussels, since EC subsidies have played such a big role in the boom — and political calm — of recent years. But ministers here are no federalists. The country joined the EC to insure against instability or dictatorship, not to become a province of the Iberian end of the EC.

President's men go for Buchanan jugular

FROM PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR IN SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

THE Bush re-election campaign team opened the bitterest phase of its battle against Patrick Buchanan, the right-wing Republican challenger, yesterday.

After a worrying result in Tuesday's South Dakota primaries and an embarrassing failure to gain full endorsement from Ronald Reagan, the White House decided that Mr Bush had to rouse his forces and stop the drift. Vice-President Dan Quayle, seeking support in Savannah for next week's Georgia primary, went well beyond any previous personal attack on Mr Buchanan. He told an audience of supporters that the challenger was a fake conservative who supported the pro-Palestine policies of the Rev Jesse Jackson, the weak defence policies of George McGovern, and the protectionist trade strategy of the Democratic House leader, Richard Gephardt.

The attacks coincided with the start of a television campaign criticising Mr Buchanan's opposition to the war against Iraq. Retired marine commandant, General P.X. Kelly, can be heard intoning nightly here how Mr Buchanan's "irresponsible assertions and lack of support for the president during Operation Desert Storm do not, in my opinion, make him an attractive candidate".

Mr Quayle and General Kelly are just two of the aggressive surrogates whom the president has decided to use to blunt the Buchanan attack in Georgia, where the primary on March 3 is the two sides' next big test of strength. Mr Buchanan was not in the ballot in South Dakota, where opposition to Mr Bush still resulted in a 32 per cent vote for an uncommitted slate of convention delegates who would be able to choose either candidate in August.

Georgian Republicans, particularly outside Atlanta, are mainly old-fashioned conservatives with a strong affection for the military. The best surrogate to appeal to them would be Mr Bush's former boss, Mr Reagan.

The Bush campaign had been rattled by newspaper reports of an alleged Reagan statement that the president "doesn't seem to stand for anything" and had set up an urgent meeting between the two men at Mr Reagan's Bel-Air home. But after reporters waited at the Reagans' gate, which had been brown-papered to stop any sight of their greeting, there was no photo opportunity

Voters spurn Bush

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BOB Kerrey easily won South Dakota's Democratic primary on Tuesday, but Paul Tsongas and Bill Clinton flopped. The results underscored the party's desperate lack of a single commanding candidate capable of exploiting the Democrats' best chance of recapturing the White House since 1976.

President Bush's vulnerability was highlighted by the fact that he was snubbed by nearly a third of South Dakota's Republicans even though he was his party's only candidate. In a state with an economy far less battered than New Hampshire's, 31 per cent rebuffed the president by voting for an uncommitted slate and two thirds of those said they would not support Mr Bush against a Democrat.

Patrick Buchanan, who is fighting for the Republican nomination but registered too late for South Dakota's primary, said the result showed Mr Bush to be weak as a kitten.

All the Democrats save Jerry Brown put time and money into South Dakota but again a regional candidate took the prize.

A song in their hearts: Natalie Cole holds three of the Grammys won by her record paying tribute to her father; the rock singer Michael Bolton with his award as best male pop vocalist; and Barbra Streisand with her Grammy for achievement in her career

Unforgettable oldies sweep Grammy board

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN NEW YORK

THE heavy-metal fans scratched their heads in wonderment and a few sneers rippled through the ranks of rappers in New York's Radio City Music Hall, but across the country, ordinary folk cheered before their television sets early yesterday.

At the annual coronation ceremony of the American music business, they had thrown political correctness to the winds and showered awards for best record, album and song, plus three other "Grammys" on Nat King Cole's ultra-romantic *Unforgettable*, a number written and performed in 1951 when half the judges had not been born. "Best song of which year?" jeered one irreverent rocker.

Cole, the idol of the bobby-soxers, who died in 1965, "joined" Natalie, his daughter, on a giant video screen in the rousing techno-spliced duet which had won her the lion's shares of the industry's Oscars. It was bad enough that Bonnie Raitt, a mainstream rocker beat all the younger performers and took three Grammys. This, moaned the more hip guardians of pop culture, was a sad comment on the times and ultimate proof that the Grammys were out of touch.

In a year when the best-selling acts have names such as Naughty by Nature, Guns 'N Roses and Niggers with Attitude, the greats of the recording business succumbed to a paroxysm of nostalgia, along with the four million mainly young Americans who in recent months have bought Ms Cole's album and found that there was life before synthesisers. "I thank my dad for leaving me such a wonderful heritage," said Ms Cole, whose computer-enhanced record also initiated the rock public into such as melodies *Mona Lisa*.

The night was a good night one for posthumous glory; awards went in the classical and jazz sections to Leonard Bernstein and Stan Getz, both of whom recently died, and to Billie Holiday.

This vindication of the oldies before a worldwide television audience overcame the good grace of Irving Gordon, when he received the Grammy for writing *Unforgettable*, four decades after the event. "It's nice to have a song accepted that you don't get a hernia when you sing it," he said, setting thousands of younger teeth on edge. "It's not necessary to scream your head off to say 'I love you'."

That was taken as a personal offence by Michael Bolton, a young singer who won the Best Pop Vocal for a mega-decibel rendition of the 1960s standard *When a Man Loves a Woman*. "You can take no-talent chimpanzees, give them paint and they'll destroy any Van Gogh and Rembrandt around," he told the cameras backstage. "I can say I don't get a hernia when I sing, because for me it is no problem."

Sarcasm, much of it politically correct, dominated the discourse at the four-hour marathon, attended by 6,000 celebrities, as performers and Whoopi Goldberg, the host, in particular, delivered the standard appeals for the environment, peace, Aids awareness and self-esteem. White men, the current butt of "appropriate" anger in America, were the favourite target, though two black men, Mike Tyson and Judge Clarence Thomas, came in for their share of anti-sexist cracks. Jibes from the winners were also a feature. Metallica, which won the heavy-metal category, were indigniant that Jethro Tull, an act from the Sixties, had pipped them to the post the last time. When Barbra Streisand received her "Living Legend" award, she took took a swipe at the ungrateful Hollywood crowd which ignored *The Prince of Tides*, her latest film, in its Oscar nominations last week.

It was not, however, a good night for all has-beens. Just hours before Donald Trump was to attend the Grammy feast, a thief made off with his stretch limousine, forcing him and Marla Maples to hitch a lift with John Denver, another blast from the past.

Diary, page 12

Tinseltown throws its biggest party

FROM WILLIAM CASH IN LOS ANGELES

Star style: choosing a present for Elizabeth Taylor is likely to be a difficult task

TINSELTOWN's most sought after invitation of 1992 is from Elizabeth Taylor. The queen of Hollywood and 1,000 guests will take over Disneyland today to celebrate the actress's 60th birthday.

The birthday bash, estimated to be costing several million dollars, comes less than six months after the excesses of her wedding at Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch in Santa Barbara, northwest of Los Angeles.

Uninvited guests included some in low-flying helicopters and a daredevil parachutist with a video recorder strapped to his head.

"It's going to be the biggest party she has ever seen — the biggest party Hollywood has ever seen," said Greg Albrecht, a Disneyland spokesman. "It's going to be wild and fun. We're pulling out the stops."

The invitation features a border with photographs of the star throughout her career alternating with snaps of Mickey Mouse. It states curtly: "Adult children only, please". Guests are expected to bring presents — an awkward task perhaps for a woman used to a gift-wrapped yacht or diamonds.

Disneyland will close to the public at 6pm. The entertainment has been organised by Michael Eisner, the Walt Disney Company chairman, and David Geffen, a leading Hollywood record producer.

Canada to pull out Europe troops

London: Nato expressed surprise and alarm yesterday after Canada announced that it intended to pull out all its troops from Europe (Our Foreign Staff writes). The 7,000 troops will leave by 1994.

The decision could have significant political implications for the alliance. The main concern was that the removal of one element of the transatlantic link to European defence could encourage the United States to consider deeper cuts in the American military presence.

Yesterday's announcement was made in Ottawa by Don Mazankowski, the Canadian finance minister, as part of a budget-cutting exercise. Canada, which has had troops in Europe since the second world war, had planned to leave a residual force of 1,100 men after 1994. The troops, which consist of one mechanised brigade group and one air division, are all based in Germany.

Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary-general, said: "While I recognise the financial pressures which led to this decision, I have noted it with considerable regret, given the political and military importance of the presence of Canadian forces in Europe."

The Foreign Office said that it regretted the decision.

Spain unveils security plan

Madrid: The Spanish defence ministry said that 12,000 servicemen would guard the Olympics in Barcelona, the Expo world fair in Seville, and strategic installations such as the Madrid-Seville high-speed rail line.

It said 3,000 would be used for internal security at the games and up to 9,000 would be deployed elsewhere.

Militant killed

Delhi: Indian security forces shot dead Rajbeer Singh, deputy chief of the Khalistan Liberation Army, and nine others in a gun battle in the Punjab. The Sikh militant is said to have committed 200 political murders. *(AFP)*

Peking rebuff

Peking: China's foreign ministry has rejected a bill approved by the US Senate attaching conditions to the renewal of the country's most favoured nation trade status, saying that it would harm bilateral relations. *(Reuter)*

Farms action

Harare: Zimbabwe's parliament intends to consider a land acquisition bill this week that would nationalise the highly profitable white-owned farms with little compensation and no right of appeal. *(AP)*

The Julie Ward trial

Mother weeps on judge's visit to scene of death

FROM SAM KILEY IN THE MASAI MARA, KENYA

JANET Ward, confronted for the first time with the scene of the death of her daughter Julie, yesterday was unable to hold back the tears she had bottled up through three weeks of evidence.

Clutching a posy of flowers she had picked as she walked towards the site, Mrs Ward stood isolated from the ring of reporters and court officials. She listened to her husband explain how he had found his daughter's remains in an isolated grove, and sobbed.

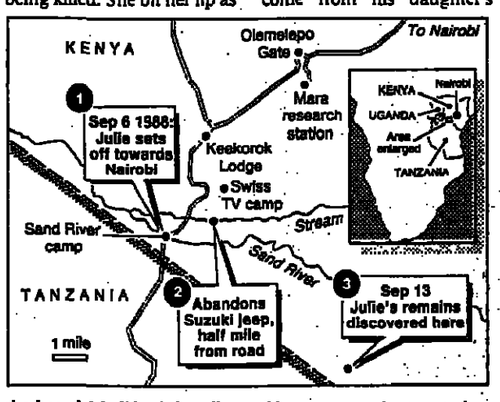
Relieved of the stuffiness of the Nairobi high court the two accused, police, prison guards, judge, witnesses, two sets of lawyers plus the British and local press had earlier packed themselves into a caravan of a dozen off-road vehicles. They travelled through the bush across one of Africa's paradise parks to reconstruct the last week of Julie Ward's life.

The court officials and Mr Ward, the leading witness in the trial of two Masai game rangers accused of killing Miss Ward in September 1988, arrived in the Masai Mara reserve in a Kenyan Army Puma helicopter.

After a two-day search for Miss Ward her father found her remains in the cluster of shrubs dominated by a tree on September 13 1988. Since then he has spent £300,00 first in proving that Miss Ward was murdered and then in helping track her alleged killers.

All that he found at the site was a half finished can of fish and some torn towelling in a bough of the tree, the ashes of a fire containing bones, the lower half of Miss Ward's left leg, and her bottom jaw. Mr Ward yesterday pointed out the places where he found what remained of his daughter.

Mrs Ward, also 56, earlier had briefly shed silent tears behind her sun-glasses at the Makari rangers' outpost, where Miss Ward was allegedly held by Peter Kipeen, aged 26 and Jonah Magiroi, aged 28, for a week before being killed. She bit her lip as



she heard Mr Ward describe how he had, with the help of a Kenyan policeman, cleaned out the sewerage pits for clues about his daughter's death.

Mr Justice Fidahussein Abdullah, was led first to the Sand River Gate where Miss Ward had camped before setting off to Nairobi. Her car was found about five miles away stuck in a water-logged gully two miles from the nearest road. The prosecution has argued that the two rangers were the only people around at the time who could have committed the crime. Yesterday the court was shown the site where a Swiss film crew had camped at the time of Miss Ward's disappearance, just half a mile from where her car was stuck.

Salim Dhanji, the prosecutor, also has said that a few Caucasian hairs were found at the rangers' camp and Mr Ward had found a camera or watch battery, which could have come from his daughter's Olympus, on the ground at Makari.

Yesterday 14 rangers were lined up before the court, showing their wrists. Five wore watches, three of them electronic.

The rangers swiftly were marched back to sit in their Land-Rover to give Mr and Mrs Ward the chance to grieve without the disturbing presence of the men accused of killing their child.

The trial continues in Nairobi today.

De Klerk declares World Cup break

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

MR VAN DER MERWE, the Afrikaner, was tied up "in conference" yesterday morning, as was his Anglo chum, Mr Smith. In fact, while the national cricket team was trouncing Australia in its first World Cup after years of the anti-apartheid boycott, the busiest people in South Africa were switchboard operators and secretaries, fending off their boss's callers.

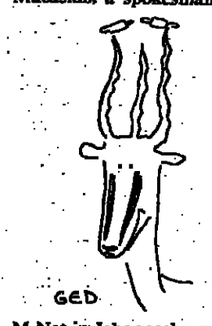
Thousands of miles away the South African team was playing Australia in the World Cup and, against even the most loyal predictions, winning.

If President de Klerk had called his referendum yesterday it is a safe bet that not even the Conservatives would have deserted their TVs and radios to go out and vote "no". As it happened, even serious affairs of state came second. Mr de Klerk was presiding over the weekly cabinet meeting at his official Cape Town residence, and the agenda was topped by the referendum. But as Kepler Wessels, the captain, and Peter Kirsten, the veteran who was originally rejected by the selectors, hit the winning runs cabinet business came to a halt.

Mr de Klerk immediately cabled Wessels: "We have just been informed of the result of the match." (Naturally, Mr de Klerk and his colleagues could not admit that they were glued to the commentary like everybody else). "The cabinet and I, together with the whole of South Africa, confirm our 'Yes' for our cricket team. Heartiest congratulations on a glorious victory. We are proud of you. Your victory is a victory for all of us over years of isolation and rejection." Television coverage of the match was denied to the majority of South African viewers although there was an adequate ball-by-ball radio commentary

The state-controlled South African Broadcasting Corporation failed to secure transmission rights with Australia's Channel 9 television which sold them to M-Net, a private firm which distributes an encoded signal.

According to Alvine Macaskill, a spokesman for



M-Net in Johannesburg, the company's technicians have been unable to keep up with the demand for decoders which has soared since the South African team arrived in Australia three weeks ago.

Hotels and clubs laid on special breakfasts for the match which started at 5.30 am local time yesterday and pubs, which had installed M-Net decoders, were packed from their 9 am opening time. Even schooling was interrupted. At an upmarket Catholic school in Johannesburg the normal double period of religious instruction was cancelled.

Famous victory, page 28

Keating plan

Canberra: Paul Keating, Australia's Labor prime minister, launched a multi-billion dollar plan aimed at ending the recession by creating jobs, cutting taxes and boosting investment while keeping inflation down. *(Reuter)*

Suit success

New York: Lisa Olson, the reporter who sued the New England Patriots football team for sexual harassment after an incident in their changing room, has accepted an out-of-court settlement in the six-figure-dollar bracket.

Burma accused

Teknaf, Bangladesh: Muslim refugees escaping from Burma say Rangoon's troops are committing atrocities against their people. One man said that rape and destruction of Muslim property were common. *(AFP)*

Friends again

Prague: Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, and President Havel of Czechoslovakia will today sign a friendship treaty aimed at overcoming the legacy of mistrust created by the Munich agreement of 1938.

Carrington talks

Belgrade: Lord Carrington, chairman of the EC peace initiative in Yugoslavia, met Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian leader, for "extremely useful and friendly" talks in an attempt to get factions back to the negotiating table.

Walesa attack

Warsaw: President Walesa criticised the appointment of Radoslaw Sikorski, a journalist who holds dual Polish and British citizenship, and who has worked for *The Sunday Telegraph* and News Corp, as deputy minister of defence.

Palestinians accuse Israel of push for apartheid

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE fourth round of Middle East peace talks appeared to be going nowhere yesterday after the Israelis had presented a plan for Palestinian self-rule which the Palestinian delegation dismissed as preposterous and "an insult to anybody's intelligence".

Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian spokeswoman, said the ten-page plan gave the Israelis the right to continue settling indefinitely in the occupied territories and was in numerous ways "a negation of the barest minimum of the Camp David accords" which Israel and Egypt signed in 1978.

The Palestinians, adopting a harder line than in earlier rounds, said negotiations on transitional self-rule could not even begin until the outstanding issues of continued Israeli settlement activity in the occupied territories and continued Israeli violations of human rights were resolved.

"While the settlements are going on, while the bulldozers are levelling our land, it is very clear that Israel is trying to dig the grave of the peace process," Dr Ashrawi said. The Camp David accords envisaged an interim Palestinian self-governing authority for a five-year transitional period before the final status of the occupied territories was determined. Israel would at the same time withdraw its forces and end its military rule in the territories.

Israel's plan has not been made public, but it reportedly applies self-rule to people, not to land, circumscribes the anticipated power of the self-governing interim authority, gives the authority no say over any Jewish settler or over east Jerusalem, and preserves Israel's sole responsibility for security in the occupied territories. It makes no mention of a military withdrawal.

Dr Ashrawi called it a "reconfirmation of the occupation ... an attempt to legitimise the annexation of the occupied territories". She said it would create an apartheid system with different laws and standards for Israelis and Palestinians. It called the Palestinians "inhabitants" of the occupied territories and said the Israelis have "the right to settle and continue settling" there.

The Bush administration is meanwhile discussing with congressional leaders a means of keeping alive the possibility of giving Israel $10 billion (£5.7 billion) in housing loan guarantees until after the Israeli elections this summer.

The compromise would involve Congress" authorising the guarantees in principle but giving James Baker, the Secretary of State, the power actually to disburse them. This does not represent a softening of the administration's determination to make the guarantees conditional on a settlement freeze, but would postpone an all-or-nothing confrontation, and a new Israeli government might prove more amenable to American demands.

Unless an agreement of this sort is reached, the administration could be deprived of the $600 million it is seeking

Ashrawi: Camp David accords "contradicted"

in aid to the former Soviet republics. Without the backing of Israel's congressional supporters there would probably be no foreign aid bill passed this year. Patrick Leahy, chairman of the Senate sub-committee that oversees foreign aid appropriations, said he would not put forward a new aid bill without an agreement tying the guarantees to a settlement freeze.

How India is selling growls to Newcastle

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

THE Enfield motor cycle, complete with the trademark growl that distinguishes it from modern designs, is rolling off a production line in Madras and starting to make a significant reappearance in Britain.

C. Vijayakumar, a senior executive of Enfield India, likens this to selling coals to Newcastle. "People are surprised to discover that this legacy of the Empire lives on. The demand from Britain and the rest of Europe is unbelievable. What we are selling is nostalgia."

Enfield India has been making motor cycles since the collapse of the British parent company, Royal Enfield, in 1968. The Indian army still uses it for its dispatch riders. Most state police forces also use Enfield's 350cc Bullet to chase other motorised relics of British influence still in production — the Ambassador car, which is a 1953 Morris Oxford; the Premier, a 1950s Hillman; and the Contessa, instantly recognisable as the Vauxhall Viva.

Since 1990 Enfield has been exporting a 500cc Bullet, whose single-cylinder engine throbs like a steam hammer. Like the smaller model, it is sluggish compared to Japanese bikes of the same size but it is cheaper and easier to maintain because it has no electronics.

Mr Vijayakumar said: "With modern bikes you sometimes cannot even change the spark plug without dismantling lots of other parts to get at it. They are too complex. The Enfield can be fixed by anybody in his back garden using basic tools. It is the sort of machine a man can talk about at the pub."

Enfield hopes to export 1,200 Bullets to Europe this year, appealing largely to older people. The Bullet has lots of chrome and black paint, emphasising its man appeal, and the design is almost unchanged from 40 years ago. "It is the thumping sound of the engine that is perhaps the Bullet's greatest appeal," Mr Vijayakumar said.

Kuwaitis 'back vote for women'

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN KUWAIT CITY

DISMAY at President Saddam Hussein's continuing grip on power in Iraq and Kuwait's refusal to grant political rights to women soured celebrations yesterday to mark the first anniversary of the emirate's liberation.

A spectacular display of air power, including two black stealth planes and 123 other jets from ten coalition countries, including Britain, provided Kuwaitis with a welcome message that pressure on Baghdad would be maintained.

A special edition of the *Arab Times* led with a rare opinion poll showing 71 per cent of Kuwaitis backing votes for women, a move that is being resisted by the ruling al-Sabah family. The survey found that even the majority of males questioned backed granting political rights to women who have been barred from taking part in parliamentary elections set for October on a day which the al-Sabahs continue to refuse to specify.

The paper, displaying new-found courage to stand up to the rulers, quoted women's activists as describing the ban — which has embarrassed Western countries who fought the Gulf war — as in direct contravention of the 1962 constitution. The *Arab Times* claimed that the "heroic role" played by women in the resistance had promoted their cause. It said the ban contravened Article 29, stating: "All are equal before law, in rights and duties, regardless of language, sex and creed."

Amid the cacophony of blaring horns from limousines which spent the day parading before the American and British embassies were some women dressed in grotesque Saddam face masks with a bloody bullet hole marked in the forehead. Among the crowd gathered to watch the warplanes roar over at 1,000ft were many Kuwaitis who expressed support for the *Arab Times* headline: "Pulse of Kuwait beats for democracy". But diplomats doubted whether the emir would bring about the demanded changes.

Elation at the anniversary was dimmed by concern for the 1,053 Kuwaitis still missing in Iraq. Yellow flags were flown alongside Kuwaiti flags to symbolise the anxiety about them, whom Western governments are accused of ignoring. "I would support Saddam staying in power as revenge on the Iraqi people for their behaviour in their seven months here," said Bibi Al-Marzook, general manager of the daily *al-Anbar*. "With a bit of luck, he will soon reduce their population from 17 million to one million."

The hatred of Saddam and fear about his future intentions towards the emirate were mixed with disillusion about the lack of change in Kuwaiti society a year after the Iraqi retreat. "There is much disappointment because we have already lost our dreams of a different Kuwait following the war," said Eman al-Bedah, vice-president of the Kuwait association for the defence of war victims, the leading local human rights body.

"We should have learnt from what happened and gained more freedom, more democracy, and more trust in each other," she added. "We should have lost our greed and learnt to respect peoples' rights. Instead, everything is back to what it was like before the invasion, or worse."

Colour party: women wave allied flags as US warplanes fly over Kuwait City yesterday to mark the first anniversary of liberation

Mengele mistress was Nazi hunter

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN BUENOS AIRES

MORE details have emerged from the newly opened Argentine police archives on Nazi refugees about the alleged Israeli spy who became the mistress of Josef Mengele, the infamous German doctor at Auschwitz during the second world war.

According to the archives, Norah Aldodt, who alternatively used the alias of Eddit Nurit, went to Argentina in 1960 as part of a group of Israelis searching for Mengele. She died in mysterious circumstances at an Argentine ski resort before she could reveal Mengele's whereabouts.

The Israelis were hunting Mengele for the murder of thousands of Jews at Auschwitz and for performing horrific medical experiments on them. After 1956, Mengele was so confident of his safety that he lived in Argentina under his real name.

The files, which depict Nora Aldodt as a "beautiful and mysterious" single Israeli woman, aged 48, relate how Argentine intelligence traced her to the same Buenos Aires address as Mengele on several occasions, and describe her as his "concubine".

A reference to an identity card she held said that she was a secretary at an East German embassy but does not reveal the location of the embassy. The files also note that she was fluent in German. Police reports claim that she was "in and out of Argentina between 1959 and 1960" but do not reveal the countries to which countries she travelled. They say she had been held with her parents in a Nazi concentration camp, had been a German citizen and only later in life adopted Israeli nationality.

Mengele had fled to Paraguay by 1964 after the German embassy in Buenos Aires had issued an extradition order against him and was allegedly found dead in Brazil in 1979.

Nora Aldodt was found dead at the bottom of an ice-covered ravine, two days after arriving in the ski resort of Bariloche on March 12, 1960.

PEOPLE

Keating takes on tabloids

Paul Keating, the Australian prime minister, hit back at British media charges that he breached royal protocol during **The Queen's** recent visit. "An editor of a British tabloid newspaper is a particularly low form of human life. No doubt we will see other similiar distorted headlines from them," Mr Keating said in a television interview.

□

A television advertisement for the British Paralympic Association, put together in 2½ days by **Anneka Rice's** *Challenge Anneka* programme, was one of several British Sports Association for the Disabled media awards presented by **Frank Bruno**, the boxer, and **Will Carling**, the England rugby union captain, at a lunch in London.

□

The first woman has been appointed to the French constitutional council, which determines whether laws are compatible with the constitution. **Noëlle Lenoir**, aged 44, a senior justice official and expert on medical and scientific ethics, was appointed for a nine-year term.

□

The Pope returned to Rome yesterday, ending his eighth visit to Africa, which was devoted mainly to relations between the Roman Catholic church and Muslim communities and took him to Senegal, Gambia and Guinea.

□

Lord Caithness, the Foreign Office minister in charge of foreign policy on Asia, arrived in Seoul for a two-day visit. He will meet **Lee Sang Oek**, the South Korean foreign minister, today to discuss ways of strengthening ties and preparations for a visit by the **Prince of Wales** to Seoul in early November.

□

Former *EastEnder* **Anita Dobson** is going up west to make her debut with the National Theatre, she disclosed. She is to star in a play by **Molière** and she says she feels it is her coming of age as an actress. "It feels like the final stamp of approval from the establishment."

Vietnamese tells of executed American

FROM KATHLEEN CALLO IN THU DAU MOT, VIETNAM

A FORMER Viet Cong guerrilla has told a American military team investigating the fate of US servicemen missing since the Vietnam war that one American prisoner was executed by firing squad in a secret jungle camp.

Nguyen Thanh Lap, aged 57, who said he was a guard at the prison camp from 1964 until 1970, told American experts in southern Song Be province on Tuesday that one of ten Americans held in the camp was shot in September 1966 in retaliation for two political executions by the American-backed South Vietnam government. He said that another American died of malaria in 1965, three months after being brought to Camp B20 near the Cambodian border.

James Webb, the head of the American team carrying out investigations in Song Be, said that American prisoners released during the war had advised military authorities the two men were dead. But Mr Lap's detailed account of life in the camp provided valuable clues to American experts seeking to establish the fate of servicemen still listed as being unaccounted for.

Another former guerrilla, Huynh Van Nghien, aged 56, told the American team that he saw the charred remains of a pilot in the wreckage of an American aircraft shot down by his Viet Cong unit in a hilly jungle area in 1965. Mr Nghien pointed out the site on an old American military map where he thought the crash took place. Mr Webb and his team planned to hike 13 miles to that area yesterday in preparation for an excavation.

About 2,267 servicemen are listed as unaccounted for in Indochina, including 1,656 in Vietnam. Washington says the issue remains a key obstacle to lifting its embargoes against Hanoi and normalising relations. *(Reuter)*

Sri Lankans opt for exile in enmity

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN MADRAS

A FERRY escorted by Indian coastguard vessels and naval helicopters has carried 500 Tamil refugees back to Sri Lanka, taking the total attempting to resettle to 4,000 in the past month — but more than 200,000 others are refusing to go home.

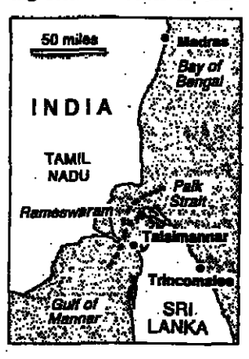
The future of a repatriation programme agreed between India and Sri Lanka must be in doubt. Word is filtering back from those who have returned to the ravaged northeast that there is nothing there for them. Some have had their meagre possessions stolen by Tamil gunmen; others have found only devastation and violence.

The fifth and last shipload of refugees from Madras to the eastern Sri Lankan port of Trincomalee left last Friday; anybody else wanting to return will, for the time being, be deposited on the more peaceful northwest coast, by a ferry plying from the Indian island of Rameswaram to the small port of Talaimannar, a three-hour journey. Sri Lanka has told India it can cope with no more than two ferry loads — 1,000 people — a month, far fewer than India hoped for. Delhi has been anxious to send back refugees since known associates of the Tamil Tigers killed Rajiv Gandhi, the former prime minister, last May.

Since then, hostility towards the refugees has hardened. Within a few weeks of Gandhi's death, the southern state of Tamil Nadu announced that no more Sri Lankans would be accepted into schools or universities.

The refugees are blamed for a host of ills. They are accused of taking scarce jobs, of kidnapping, bank robberies and encouraging drug-taking among students.

The government gives free food to 113,000 refugees housed in camps, plus 150 rupees (£3.30) a month to each adult and up to 90 rupees per child. Many refugees also receive remittances from relatives abroad, making them far better off than



most local Tamils. This adds to the resentment.

The Gandhi assassination has turned the Tamil Tigers, once seen as heroes, into figures of hate. They are no longer allowed to bring their wounded to Tamil Nadu, and training camps are banned. Intensive surveillance of the coast has made it all but impossible for weapons shipments bought on the international market to be offloaded in India, where they used to be broken up into small consignments. These measures are at the heart of the Tigers' present military weakness.

Delhi is angry, starting to suspect that Sri Lanka's declared willingness to take back refugees returning voluntarily was intended merely to impress a meeting in Paris last month of an international aid consortium, which agreed on a record $950 million (£540 million) one-year package. Most refugees are clearly unimpressed by Colombo's promise to ensure their safety and help them resettle, and appear ready to endure continuing hostility in India rather than return.

Advocate on trial

David Pannick on the new Lord Chief Justice

There have been some unhappy departures from the office of Chief Justice since the post was created by William the Conqueror. In 1350, Sir William Thorpe was convicted of accepting bribes. Sir John de Cavendish was murdered by a mob during Wat Tyler's rebellion in 1382. A few years after leaving office, Judge Jeffreys died in the Tower of London in 1689. Lord Trevethin was briskly displaced to make room for Sir Gordon Hewart in 1922: Hewart's biographer records that Trevethin "read of his own resignation in *The Times*". The announcement that Lord Justice Taylor will succeed Lord Lane, who takes "early retirement" in April at the age of 73, is prosaic by comparison.

The office of Lord Chief Justice is central to the English legal system. He presides over important criminal appeals, defining the basic principles of the criminal law and shaping sentencing policy. He is in charge of the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court, the functions of which include judicial review of administrative action. His other responsibilities include some supervision of Crown Courts and Magistrates' Court, and liaison with the Home Office and the Lord Chancellor's Department on a range of matters including parole and the appointment of the judiciary. The job description involves so great an influence in matters of public policy that Chief Justice Pemberton confessed at the end of the 18th century that "in making law he had outdone King, Lords and Commons".

For the new Lord Chief Justice, the most important task is to regain public confidence in the integrity of the criminal justice system, a large measure of which has been forfeited as a result of an unprecedented series of high-profile cases in which defendants have spent years in custody after wrongful convictions. To win back this confidence will require an explanation of the many virtues of our legal system, and reassurance that the judiciary recognises defects and is working to remedy them. That Sir Peter Taylor has already held a press conference to explain his philosophy and intentions manifests his concern to communicate with the public.

As Lord Chief Justice, he will need to provide leadership for the judiciary on the difficult questions of sentencing which will be created by the implementation of the Criminal Justice Act 1991. A greater willingness to seek help from academic lawyers and to work in partnership with the Home Office to produce rational, humane guidelines through a sentencing council should be a priority. Sir Peter will also appreciate the need for a good working relationship between the judiciary and the Lord Chancellor's Department.

He will need to tackle the increasing delays in legal proceedings. In judicial review proceedings, there is now a waiting time of more than 18 months before most cases are heard. A more imaginative approach to the problem is required than blaming the Lord Chancellor for not providing funds to appoint more judges. The use of deputy judges to clear the backlog should be a priority. Sir Peter should revive the tradition that the Lord Chief Justice sits in the Divisional Court whenever possible to hear important applications for judicial review.

The post of Lord Chief Justice imposes heavy judicial and administrative burdens. By the time of his retirement in 1980, Lord Widgery had, for some months, been medically unfit to discharge his duties. So backbreaking are the job's demands, that there is a strong case for encouraging the Chief Justice to hand over to a younger judge after five or seven years. Lord Lane's mistake was, because of his devotion to duty, to remain in office for five years too long.

In 1858, Lord Campbell wrote in his *Lives of the Chief Justices* that the incumbent should be "an enlightened jurist, experienced in the ways of the world, well qualified to address a legislative assembly, a scholar and a gentleman". The legal system is in desperate need of leadership of the quality provided in the 18th century by Chief Justice Mansfield. The next five years will see major changes in the way justice is dispensed in English courts. All those involved with the law — judges, lawyers, jurors, even journalists — should be ready to justify or improve their performance.

David Pannick is a practising barrister and a fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

Richard Cork on how the Royal College of Art under Anthony Jones can stay ahead of its rivals

Making a bigger splash

Francis Bacon, Britain's most distinguished contemporary painter, never went to art school. Grateful for his lack of conventional training, he once declared that "There are always old bores around art schools, who are generally failures themselves, and the only way they can earn their living is by teaching other people to be failures too".

Despite Bacon's caustic verdict, most young artists now attend art colleges and thrive on the experience. The literary British may be notorious for their suspicion of the visual arts, but the Victorians agreed with John Constable that "a self-taught artist is one taught by a very ignorant person".

Accordingly, they established a vigorous national network of *schools for artists which remains* the envy of Europe, despite the cuts and mergers of recent years. But these depredations have taken their toll. In London alone, which used to boast an abundance of robustly independent colleges, four schools — the Central, St Martins, Camberwell and Chelsea — have been placed under the umbrella of the anonymous sounding London Institute. Reduced and merged into a conglomerate, their once proud individuality is being lost.

So far, the Royal College of Art has managed to retain its autonomy. Under the bullish and controversial rectorship of Jocelyn Stevens, the RCA has been often in the headlines — although Stevens used to complain that taxi drivers had never heard of it. But Stevens is leaving at a turning point for the RCA, and may well feel glad to *let his successor, Professor Anthony Jones*, take the helm.

Until now, the college has been fortunate to receive its funding direct from the Department of Education and Science. From next year, however, the RCA will be placed in the same financial pool as all the other art schools. The old privileged status will be at an end. The college will be forced to fight much harder for its share of the available cash. And now that many other art schools are starting postgraduate courses, the RCA is losing its special role.

David Hockney: most famous old boy

So how should the new rector retain for his college a leading place in *the development of* art education for the 1990s? One way would be to build on the exceptional range of disciplines taught at present in its Kensington Gore headquarters. Besides painting and sculpture, holography, furniture, architecture and ceramics are among the alternatives. But the hunger for innovation should not lead to a neglect of the fine art tradition. Teachers at the RCA have recently been alarmed to find that many of the students they accept for MA courses have not learned the basics. Widespread ignorance exists about even the barest outline of art history, *and the continuing* lack of groundwork in drawing from life is equally disquieting. As a result the RCA finds itself obliged to resort to remedial teaching rather than proper post-graduate education.

The success of the life drawing class set up by Bryan Kneale, the RCA's professor of drawing, proves that this discipline satisfies a fundamental need. Students deprived of the opportunity to look long and hard at a live model are now discovering — often to their surprise — how nourishing it can be. No college should ever go back to the irksome academic procedures of the 19th century, when students were forbidden to work in the life room before they had mastered the art of copying classical statues. But from now on, every art school worthy of the name ought to ensure that its students are never again deprived of the chance to draw from the life.

Nor should they be forced to declare a steadfast allegiance to either abstraction or representation. Polarized thinking of this kind can easily stunt students' growth, obliging them to narrow their options rather than discover and define their individual strengths.

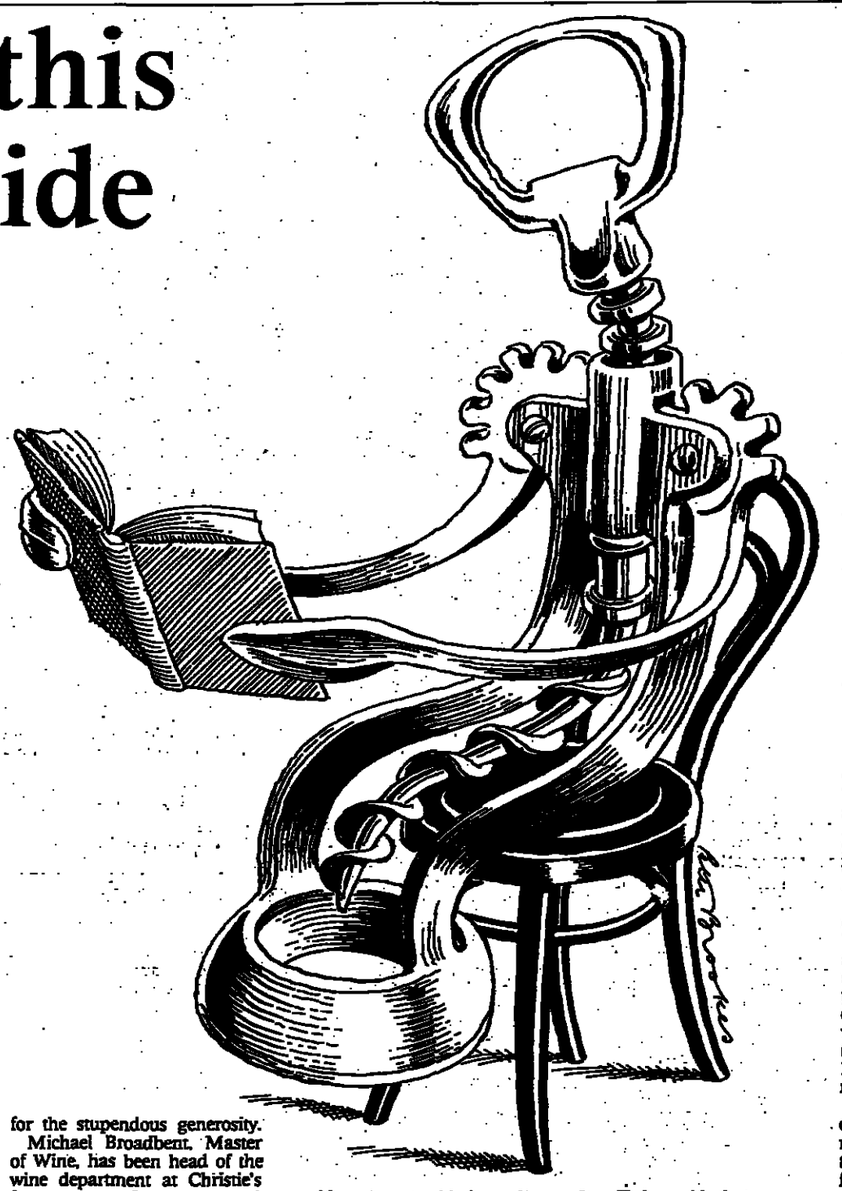
Mature artists are well placed to foster such talents, and they must always be given a prominent place in art school teaching. If art schools are allowed to become dominated by bureaucratic professionals, they run the risk of losing the vital understanding and inspiration that artists alone can provide.

At present, painters and sculptors still occupy leading positions on the RCA's staff: Paul Huxley heads the painting department, as well as chairing the fine art faculty; Glyn Williams runs the sculpture school, and Eduardo Paolozzi is a visiting professor.

But the increasing pressures of administration mean that the rector is unlikely ever again to be a practising artist. As he prepares for office, he should bear in mind that the RCA's painting students were never more brilliant than in the 1950s and 1960s, when David Hockney and his fellow students inhabited a college run by the painter Sir Robin Darwin.

Lay down this vintage guide

Bernard Levin drinks a toast to a new cellar-book of genius



As I have related elsewhere, I came rather late to the study and enjoyment of wine; I was almost 20 when I took my first steps into that mighty ocean, and the idea of nurturing knowledge and a taste for it by regular experiment came yet later. I still have a tiny book by Raymond Postgate called *An Alphabet of Choosing and Serving Wine*, published in 1955.

Postgate was a great man: social historian, polemicist, biographer, thriller-writer, columnist and — pray homage — the deviser and founder of *The Good Food Guide*. (He had in his cellar a bottle of Imperial Tokay — the real thing from the Imperial vineyard; there couldn't have been more than a score or two surviving in all the world. Among the many properties attributed to the unique ichor was the capacity of bringing the dead back to life. When he was dying, therefore, Postgate enjoined his family to open the treasured bottle and pour a glass down his throat *in articulo mortis*; if it brought him back to life, well and good, if not, the family were to finish the bottle then and there. Postgate died, and they drank beside his deathbed a grand man's health. Or so I have been told.)

Anyway, Postgate's *multum in parvo* (shut up — he was also a notable classicist) served me well for many years, until I was through my prentice time, when I moved on first to André Simon, *un peu snob* I thought, and then Cyril Ray, who became a lifelong friend.

By my great good fortune, most of my basic wine education took place when good quality wine (not of course the great bottles with great names and pedigrees) could be had at remarkably comfortable prices; the next stroke of fortune for me was that my income rose a little faster than did the cost of wine, and even when some scoundrelly restaurateur thought up the shifty, squalid, smelly trick of pricing the wine by multiplying what he paid for it by three — five — ten — I was largely immune, having by then some understanding of the enormous number of humble but delicious wines to be had at little cost; and that was long before I had any knowledge of the wonderful things that can now be had from Australia and California. (Once, dining alone in Buenos Aires, and wanting to try Argentinian wine but knowing nothing of it, I asked the wine-waiter for a recommendation; after a discussion of what I had ordered for dinner, he produced something that naturally I had never heard of, but it was excellent, fitting and ludicrously cheap. On a whim, I called back the wine-list, and counted the South American wines on it: there were 473. What lifetimes I could spend discovering new wines!)

I first gained the acquaintance of Michael Broadbent when we were fellow-guests of that amazing viniphilanthropist Joseph Berkmann. His unsurpassable hospitality has been described in detail — unbelievable but, as I can testify, absolutely true — by Quentin Crewe, in his autobiography, *Well, I Forget the Rest*. Joseph thought nothing of serving *fifteen* great vintage years of, say, *Haut Brion* or *Margaux* at a dinner for a dozen friends. I was a tyro among the great bibbers there, and I kept my head down, listened and watched. Without consciously trying to memorise the vast store of vinous knowledge in that room, I must have swallowed a great deal, and I am still as grateful to Joseph for that as for the stupendous generosity.

Michael Broadbent, Master of Wine, has been head of the wine department at Christie's for a quarter of a century, and Christie's got a bargain. (Some of the buyers got a hole in the pocket, but I never heard of one bringing the glorious stuff back.) But now I am gradually coming to the point, for 11 years ago, Michael published a book which recorded — no, "records", for no one who has acquired it would ever part with it — the thousands upon thousands of his tasting notes, which began with the vintage of 1799 (he is not as old as that, indeed he is only one year older than I, but the practice of recorking ancient wines has been very skilfully done). The book is called *The Great Vintage Wine Book*.

It will be said that, expert though Michael is, and vast as the experience he can call upon, a reader can have too much of a good thing. Not so. The catalogue is hypnotic, with its more than 400 pages of tasting-notes, culled from Bordeaux red and white, Burgundy likewise, champagne, German wines in profusion, vintage port, a nod to Australia and more than a nod to California (though to my astonishment, not a sniff of Alsace — was he bitten by an Alsatian when he was a child?).

I used it for years as a bedside book as well as the perfect *vade mecum* when dining in restaurants (I never quite got round to taking it to the table and propping it up beside the wine-list). To this day, I can sometimes hear myself murmuring things like "1959, Latour... tasted 17 times since 1963 ...beginning to show maturity ....enormous wine, dry, full of alcohol, fruit...drink 1990-2050". (I promise to drink it in 2050 even if it, he and I are by then all slightly over the hill.)

But publication, as I said, was in 1980, which meant that the latest reports were from 1979; the book was still immensely valuable as a guide, and imperishable as poetry, but it became less and less useful when faced with younger vintages.

Corks out! For Michael, heeding our plaints, has published a sequel, as rich and rare as the original; indeed, in some ways more valuable, because although the 1980s are thoroughly attended to, he has of course not stopped tasting the older ones, whence an entry such as "1921 ... Cheval-Blanc ... Five superb bottles on five occasions ... Five consistent notes ... all had a marvellously rich yet delicate bouquet, lovely texture ... Perfection ..."

The new volume is called, naturally, *The Great Vintage Wine Book II*: this time there is a serious section on Alsace; more significantly, there are now 37 pages devoted to California (as opposed to nine in the original volume) and nine to Australia (three last time), plus a nod to New Zealand and more than a nod for South Africa.

Michael Broadbent is assuredly a happy man. To know so much about so precious a gift of the gods, and to love the beautiful thing in all its thousands of tastes (without, incidentally, being sloshed from morning to night), is a boon given to few. It was given to him, and he has shared with us his knowledge, experience and enthusiasm. The only recompense he would want is for us to love and honour our "Strong Brother in God, and last Companion: Wine".

...and moreover

PETER BARNARD

You can see what the next Lord Chief Justice is talking about when he sees the need to restore the public's faith in the judicial system. This wholly laudable ambition was reported on page one of *The Times* yesterday, and anyone in the slightest degree puzzled as to what he was on about had only to turn to page three of the selfsame issue to understand what it is that irks Lord Justice Taylor.

"Can pay, won't pay, can't drive" is what the headline said, nicely encapsulating a hint of the story itself and a reference to the fictional world of the West End theatre so appropriate to reporting the activities of our lawmakers. In case you missed it, the city council in Leeds is proposing a by-law under which people who can afford to pay the poll tax but refuse to do so will ... have their cars clamped.

Brilliant. I strongly recommend that Lord Justice Taylor, instead of warming up on the touchline while Lord Lane takes his last few strides across the penalty area, rush onto the pitch immediately to take on Leeds, whose councillors are now assured of a place in the Premier Division of nitwits. Never mind Guildford 4, Birmingham 6, Tottenham 3, Arsenal 2 (after extra time). Leeds is clearly *the place to see British justice* in action.

Granted that making the punishment fit the crime has never made much sense, making the punishment totally inappropriate to the crime is an option it has taken the councillors of Leeds a long time to get around to. But not long enough.

Leaving aside the question of what can be done to non-payers of the poll tax who do not own cars — chain up their bikes? shackle their ankles? — a by-law that renders immobile people who refuse to pay a tax has a potential for furtherance that scarcely bears thinking about.

Adopted by the criminal justice system nationally, we can shortly expect shoplifters convicted of stealing two pork chops from Sainsburys to have their Benidorm timeshares taken off them, although on second thoughts that might be regarded as a favour rather than a punishment, so perhaps they should be sentenced to having one or more of their children taken into care for six months. After all, children eat you out of house and home — we all know that — and there could be no finer discouragement to the food thief than having a few mouths removed from the table.

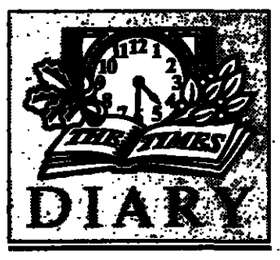
Of course I know what will be faxing down the line no sooner has this appeared in print. I know what they will say, the councillors of Leeds. They will be sending me the car theft *statistics, they will be telling me* that somewhere in Leeds a car is nicked every 6.5 seconds, they will be saying that they had hoped for a more sophisticated reaction from someone word-processing on behalf of *The Times*. In short, in their blunt Yorkshire way, they will tell me that no one ever stole a car that had a clamp welded to its front near side.

I can confirm that this is true. By the time I left London last October I was on first-name terms with the clampers, they all but presented me with a clamp engraved with my initials when I left. They gathered in their scores, clamps at half mast, fixed penalties furled, to mourn my passing. It was moving, which was more than could have been said for the car.

So maybe Leeds is on to something after all. Possibly I have misjudged them. Perhaps there is a linkage as between the poll tax and the car clamp that has only just occurred. Certainly I would not be surprised if the City of London had to put up its poll tax in order to compensate for the loss of income occasioned by my departure.

Something still niggles about the Leeds plan, however. Something seems not quite right. I think my problem is with the logical quid pro quo: if people refusing to pay the poll tax have their cars clamped, what is to be done about people who refuse to pay fines for illegal parking? Simple: add the fine to their poll tax bills. And if they refuse to *pay the poll tax, burn their* houses down.

After all, they can always live in their cars. It's not as if the cars are going anywhere.



Transatlantic pause

NEVER MIND the small print; watch the punctuation. Not since James Joyce's *Ulysses* has a comma taken on the significance it acquired at Camp David in November 1986. More than five years on, news has emerged for the first time of how close the special relationship between Britain and America came to fracturing when Mrs Thatcher and Ronald Reagan fell out over a comma.

It began after the Reykjavik summit, when an already unhappy Mrs Thatcher flew to America to confront Reagan over his negotiations with Gorbachev before consulting his Nato partners. To cool the atmosphere, a carefully crafted statement was to be produced by the "golden pens" — Foreign Office slang for the diplomatic drafters of such things. Sir Charles Powell, Mrs Thatcher's private secretary, and Sir John Kerr, now our man at the EC, were set the task of negotiating with American state department officials after the prime minister had established the outline over dinner with George Shultz, the American secretary of state.

The "golden pens" worked into the small hours. Mrs Thatcher was delighted with the result. John Poindexter, Reagan's national security adviser, was relatively happy but insisted on one small change. He demanded the insertion of the comma into the sentence: "We also agreed on the need to press ahead with the SDI research programme, which is permitted by the ABM treaty."

Absolutely not, said the British. According to Kerr, the comma meant that Britain accepted that all SDI research was permissible under the treaty. Without it, the sentence commited Britain to support only such research as the treaty might authorise.

Mrs Thatcher agreed and took the matter up with Reagan. Things looked serious. Eventually, the Americans, already feeling guilty over Reykjavik, backed down in return for a supportive statement about Irangate from Mrs Thatcher.

But that was not the end, for the statement was then inadvertently issued with the offending comma in place. Even Mrs Thatcher could hardly complain. The mistake had been perpetrated by a typist — in the British embassy.

● *Ivana Trump is keeping the wolves from the door — at least those whose fur is not gracing the coat on her back — by writing what sounds like a highly autobiographical novel. The publishers say it "leads the reader through the jet set world" on the ski slopes of Europe and in the penthouses of Manhattan. Poor things.*

Hook at bedtime

THE question all true Englishmen want answered: is the prime minister staying up all night to watch the cricketing world cup on satellite TV?

It seems John Major was not among those glued to their set at 3.30 am this morning to watch England and the West Indies live from Melbourne. "He has many more important things to think about," said a Downing Street spokeswoman somewhat sniffily, although she did concede he would probably catch some of it over breakfast.

If those snatched moments are all Major can manage, he will be disappointed. In an interview with *The Times* last year he said that getting to Australia for the World Cup "might be difficult". But, he added, "I'm working on it". With the final on March 25, the odds are that Major and his colleagues will be in the midst of an election campaign. Even that usually indefatigable party-giver, Jeffrey Archer, one of Major's sponsors

for his MCC membership, will not be throwing an all-night party around the small screen. "John Major will have people relaying the latest score to him. But I don't think you'll catch him staying up all night," says Archer. "Not this year."

Thought police

A DIALECTIC on political correctness will form the centrepiece of Martin Amis's next novel, and the author has no doubt on which side he comes down. "I know some American academics who have had bad experiences at the hands of the PC movement. It appeals to a powerful force in society which is busybody and sneaky. Mao knew how to run a society of millions on this principle," says Amis.

The work in progress, under the provisional title *The Information*, will feature two writers arguing from opposite ends of the correctness spectrum. "I find that kind of contrast interesting, although the movement hasn't taken root over here." Amis hopes it never will, and likes to think Britain has its own built-in armour against PC: "British irony will keep it at bay."

● *Westminster Abbey really has hired a distinguished press officer. His name? Christ Birch, according to a press release on official notepaper. It should of course say Chris Birch.*

Cinematic correctness

WITH accusations of sexism still rampant after Barbra Streisand's failure to gain an Oscar nomination as director of *The Prince of Tides*, the industry has hit back. The trade journal *Variety* insists that women are taking over Hollywood. The evidence? Last week's top-grossing film in the country was *Wayne's World*, directed by Penelope Spheeris. The best reviewed new picture in New York was *This Is My Life*, directed by Nora Ephron and produced by Lynda Obst. The most popular foreign picture is *Europe Europe*, directed by Agnieszka Holland.

Good polemical stuff. But the fact remains: if *Prince of Tides* wins an Oscar as best picture, Streisand will join Bruce Beresford and Edmund Goulding as the only directors ever to see their work take the best film award without themselves being nominated as best director.

LAST OF THE 15

Finland, whose very name was once a synonym for Soviet-imposed neutrality, is expected to announce today that it is applying for membership of the European Community. It thus becomes the third member of the European Free Trade Association to swallow qualms over once cherished neutrality and decide that it has no future as a small, rich, outpost on the fringe of a huge continental single market.

Finland's application will be vigorously championed by Britain, which has made enlargement a priority of the British EC presidency later this year. But together with Austria and Sweden it is likely to be the last newcomer to the Community in its present form. A structure designed for six members cannot take aboard more than 15 without intolerably straining its present confederal structure, much as Brussels may seek to try.

Finland's application was inevitable once Sweden decided to join. The two countries realise that the proposed European Economic Area, combining the 19 members of the EC and Efta, cannot be more than a staging post. Tortuous negotiation made it clear to all Efta members that a halfway house, a device put forward by EC "deepeners" such as Jacques Delors to stave off new applications, was unsatisfactory. It would deprive them of equality in decision-making and give them no return beyond market access for the diminution of sovereignty.

Finland's application has also been spurred by the collapse of the Soviet Union. The end of the cold war has been a disaster for Finland. Reliable, rouble-based trade with the Soviet Union, accounting for over a fifth of Finland's exports, protected its industry from a harsh world economy and gave Finland one of the highest growth-rates of all non-communist economies. Helsinki was the Soviet Union's Hong Kong. It was used by the Russians as their window to the West and deserves much of the credit for the success of the 1975 "Helsinki process" that evolved into the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. But Finland is now suffering its biggest slump since the war. It has lost its markets and influence in the East and become merely a distant Nordic country. Having renounced the capitulationist terms of its 1948 treaty with the Soviet Union, it is now free to turn south. But joining the Community is a reorientation so dramatic that it may break up its present coalition government. It will not guarantee the security of Finland's long border with Russia, nor hold out promise of quick prosperity.

Finland, like Sweden and Austria, may have to contribute more to the Community budget than it gets out of it. Britain is particularly eager to encourage the entry of these three. They will bring new cash and ease the burden on Britain's contribution. They also have a more open, pragmatic and market-oriented approach to trade — even in traditionally socialist Sweden — than the *dirigiste* ethos of Brussels. Whether these countries will be wise enough not to sign up to the Social Charter and risk yet further shackling their already high-cost industries remains to be seen.

Britain has made it clear to the three applicants that they will have to hurry to get in before the Community decides that it must change the way it is governed before it can receive further applicants. By then, a different EC may anyway have emerged, divided roughly north/south and possibly further enfeebled by economic stagnation. Either way, Finland's admission will mean blunt talking to tell Turkey, Malta and Cyprus why they must wait many years before their applications can be considered.

Finland will none the less be welcome. Long written off as a capitalist satellite of the Soviet Union, it is eager to rejoin a Western Europe of which it has always been culturally a part. The Finns have pulled themselves out of hard times past. As they pull themselves out of those present, they will set all their neighbours an example.

CARING FOR FARMLAND

The British countryside is in the process of changing more drastically than at any time since the interwar depression. The government's response, a policy review called "Action for the countryside", is to be launched today by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, and John Gummer, the agriculture minister. The "action" will take the form of a series of mostly technical measures and a modest £20 million of mostly new money to pay for them.

What it underlines is that nobody, government, farming industry, conservation groups or public, can possibly leave what is happening to rural Britain to some theoretical resolution by lobbyists and market forces. No subject is so infested with cliché as ecology, of cliché in combat with realpolitik. Today will produce everything from yet more assurances that the nettle of agricultural policy reform will be grasped to "a programme to enhance the abundance and distribution of scarce and vulnerable species".

Self-sufficiency was the watchword of a nation which had felt hunger at home in wartime twice this century. As this memory declined in the 1960s and 70s, public apprehension was switched to the prospect of a world food shortage, of hunger elsewhere. Either way, the emphasis was on maximising output from farming. Thus farmers had to be rewarded for their productivity and subsidised to increase it.

In the 1990s, land-use policy has left these simplicities far behind, probably for ever. The stark division between the urban and rural economy, and hence between urban and rural culture, has faded. The Common Agricultural Policy now subsidises in different ways over-production, under-production and non-production at what most people regard as obscene cost. Its contradictions dictate both what the countryside is used for and ultimately what it looks like. Its fate lies at the heart of any countryside policy.

Mr Gummer and his EC opposite number Raymond MacSharry need no persuading that something needs to be done, though they cannot agree on how to do it. Both believe that the cost of maintaining those parts of the rural economy no longer used for farming must be switched from the food consumer to the taxpayer. Clearly, no longer can fallow fields, set aside by order of the CAP, be subsidised for ever by purchasers of meat or vegetables grown on neighbouring fields still in use.

Fallow fields must be seen as themselves a national resource, part of a commodity called "countryside". Today's policy review is concerned with the care of that commodity with a view to its productive use for recreation and other "external" benefits. Those bred in the old school may feel such a transition from the serious to the frivolous unacceptable. Yet many are finding more profit in bed-and-breakfast than in pigs and cows. Conservation and preservation, car parks and footpaths, the encouragement of wildlife, hunting and tourism are all part of the new direction.

Yet having recently told planning authorities that unused farmland was no longer sacrosanct against development, Mr Heseltine now faces a credibility gap explaining his commitment to its "care" in today's policy review. It speaks of attempting to "combine the production of food with care for the countryside". That, rather than commercial development or ever greater (and ever more subsidised) production of food, must be the guiding principle in the management of the rural economy. Where there is still subsidy, it must be spent so that the profit incentive produces a proper balance between farming and all other truly rural land uses. The first step towards producing a rural economy that is rational and manageable is the levelling of the subsidy-mountain of the CAP and the end of the distortions in land use it causes.

A TOAST TO THE SDP

Ave atque tandem vale. Last night the Social Democrats said goodbye with a final party political broadcast. The party's erstwhile leader, David Owen, had already gone, leaving only Rosie Barnes and John Cartwright flitting softly into the ether. A close encounter has returned to its spaceship. The electoral crop circle has grown over. All that remains is a curious skewing of the Liberal party's nameplate.

Last night was a final punctuation on the 1980s. The search for a new consensual politics, cerebral, genteel and free of pain has long been a leitmotif of centrist politics. The line of descent is direct from Whig dining clubs, Peelites, Lloyd George Liberals and Simonites, from parties as the product of personality clashes at Westminster, not seismic shifts in ideology or interest in the country. The Social Democrats embodied de Tocqueville's conclusion that the defining institution of British politics is the club.

The Social Demcrats emerged because a number of middle-class Labour supporters could no longer stand the party as led by Michael Foot and the pre-reformation Neil Kinnock, but felt the Liberals slightly beneath them. Whereas in the 1960s and now in the 1990s they would have "fought and fought and fought again" to save the party from drifting to the left, somehow they were above and beyond all that. They daubed their Volvos and set forth from their second homes as missionaries to the Home Counties, the New Towns and the gentrifying suburbs. They scorned the jibe of "tupperware politics" and intoxicated themselves with 40 per cent ratings in the opinion polls and the fair-weather friendship of the London media. Like the yuppies and dinkies, they were a defining group of their decade. The SDP has already given its obituarists enough cause for gloating. A party founded in a rush of blood to the head was never securely based. It did not matter how many big names came to the banner, politics is about interest and the ability to organise and deliver interest at the polls. The anti-Tory party in Britain must in its roots be the party of organised labour, if only because organised labour has money and organisation and an agenda. The SDP never came near to rivalling that innate commitment. Its colonels and NCOs fought only two electoral engagements, in 1983 and 1987, and then returned to their homes. For most of them it was magnificent and the posters still adorn their loos — *mais ce n'est pas la guerre*.

The first beneficiary of the SDP adventure was probably Margaret Thatcher, controversial though this is to the pundits. The SDP boosted the Liberal vote and thus split the anti-Tory vote, certainly in 1983 and arguably in 1987. The second beneficiary has been Mr Kinnock. The SDP defection cleared away the faint hearts and intellectuals, so that the inevitable confrontation of the post-Wilsonian Labour party could take place: that of soft left against hard left. Without it, Labour's electability would never have been restored.

Should Mr Kinnock win power this spring, he should thus raise the same glass to his one-time colleagues that Mrs Thatcher is reputed to have raised to Dr Owen as he briefly laid waste Labour's morale. What does it matter that the great dream ended in dust? To have been instrumental in electing not one prime minister but two would have been no mean achievement.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Independent steps towards restoring confidence in Lloyd's

From Mr Ian Hay Davison

Sir, The current criticism of Lloyd's is damaging but it contains elements of truth. If the valid criticisms are to be dealt with it seems to me, as deputy chairman and chief executive between 1983 and 1986, that the following are essential:

1. A fuller and clearer recognition by the Council of Lloyd's that it exists to serve the interests of its customers — the policy-holders — and its investors — the Names. Those who work in the market are agents of the Names and their primary duty is to them: their own interests are at all times secondary.

2. Restoration of confidence in Lloyd's on the part of the Names, now so sadly damaged, by a clear separation of the regulatory and commercial functions of the Society along the lines proposed in the report last month by Mr David Rowland, chairman of the Lloyd's task force, so that those who regulate the market are clearly seen as having no interest in the profitability of its operations. Parliamentary assistance will be needed here.

3. Resolution of the open-year loss problems so that Lloyd's does not disappear in a welter of lawsuits from which only the legal profession will gain. An effective arbitration process might provide a way out.

4. More active pursuit by market professionals of the conditions for commercial success in a competitive world insurance market based upon Lloyd's unique skills in underwriting complex risks. This includes better underwriting, prompter claims processing, and increasing levels of education and training for market professionals.

Such steps, with others, will reduce the fundamental problem — Lloyd's declining share of world insurance markets.

It would be quite wrong to say that I am advocating the liquidation of Lloyd's. However, unless steps such as these are taken I fear Lloyd's may not survive the end of the century.

Yours faithfully,
IAN HAY DAVISON,
1 Grosvenor Place, SW1.
February 26.

From Mr Claud Gurney

Sir, Whilst delighted that Sir David Walker has been appointed to head a team which will look into allegations of past and present market-rigging at Lloyd's (report, Business, February 22) I cannot but hope that past errors will not be repeated. I should like to be sure:

1. That Sir David's remit will allow him to investigate all the allegations throughout Lloyd's and not just a few areas selected by the Council.

2. That in line with the oft-made statements of both Mr Rowland and Mr David Coleridge, chairman of Lloyd's, on the "primacy of Names' interests", Sir David's report will in the first instance be made to Names and not to the Council.

3. That, unlike the Rowland task force, some Names who have lost money and/or resigned be included on the enquiry team. Roughly 11,000 Names have resigned but have not yet been able to extricate themselves from the Society of Lloyd's, and about another 6,000 are in litigation with various parties within the Society. It would be sad if this constituency were once again to go unrepresented.

The task force report took great pains to emphasise the fundamental importance of the interests of the providers of capital to the market — enshrined in the phrase "the primacy of Names' interests". Messrs Rowland and Coleridge must be careful to ensure that this phrase does not come to mean the "primacy of future Names' interests" whilst past Names are being unceremoniously bankrupted and dumped. Otherwise, future Names will not be forthcoming.

Yours faithfully,
CLAUD GURNEY,
Little Chart, Penshurst, Kent.
February 25.

From Mr M. P. de L. Cazenove

Sir, I have been a member of the broking community for 20 years and a Name for 15. Along with most other Names, I shall have a large loss for 1989 but I shall not be whinging to the chairman about it, unlike some Conservative MPs (report, February 14).

Most of us have increased our underwriting limits for 1992 and intend to do so again for 1993; we are sure that Lloyd's will weather this appalling run of large losses and return to good profitability in the near future.

I hope that the many Names who are facing losses this year will appreciate that Lloyd's results merely reflect the position of most of the other large UK composite insurers. I also hope that they will reach for their cheque books and not be tempted to join the 600 or so Names who, as I understand, are now trying to take out an injunction to stop Lloyd's drawing on their letters of credit or reserves (report, February 20).

These people joined Lloyd's in the full knowledge that ours is a risk business, where you can expect good and bad results — indeed losses are the only reason that the insurance industry exists at all. By trying to avoid paying genuine losses caused, not as a result of any fraud or wrongdoing, more the result of a horrendous series of natural catastrophes worldwide, they bring discredit and dishonour to themselves and, more particularly, to Lloyd's.

After the Outhwaite settlement (report, February 10), I suspect most of us have no desire to shoulder any more of other people's losses. I hope that the Council will take every action to ensure that this litigation fails; if it does not, the consequences are dire for us all.

I also hope the Council will do all in its powers to exclude these people, since members who are only prepared to accept profits are no use to Lloyd's.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL CAZENOVE,
The Members' Writing Room,
Lloyd's of London,
1 Lime Street, EC3.
February 26.

From Mr A. F. J. Wilson

Sir, Put simply, the problem confronting Lloyd's is that a small minority of agents and brokers indulged in artificial underwriting that was in their interests, but not of the Names who are now being asked to pick up the tab amounting to hundreds of millions of pounds.

If these losses had arisen in the normal course of business there would be no argument. If Lloyd's is not prepared to address this issue the Names concerned must do so, with all that that entails.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. J. WILSON,
4 Conybeare, NW3.
February 26.

From Mrs W. E. Howard

Sir, As one old enough to remember Lloyd's in the Royal Exchange and in the two fine buildings in Leadenhall Street, I think its present troubles are retribution for the awful building there now — your "Life & Times" picture (February 21) says it all!

Yours faithfully,
W. E. HOWARD,
Crofton, Staplehay,
Nr Taunton, Somerset.
February 21.

Business letters, page 21

Upholding EC law on environment

From the European Commissioner for the Environment

Sir, Your leading article of February 5 ("Off the target") has only now been drawn to my attention. In it you attribute to me "a gargantuan reputation in Britain for double standards" in carrying out my duties in implementing Community law. That accusation is not only damaging and unjustified but is even contradicted elsewhere in your article.

You rightly state that other member states are taken to court on environmental matters more often than the United Kingdom. The figures for 1990, which are the latest available, show that, in that year, 44 procedures for non-compliance with Community law were begun against the UK compared with 114 for Spain, 61 for Germany and 110 for Italy, the three other member states to which your article refers.

Your implication that my native Italy receives in some way favourable treatment is especially ironical in the light not only of these figures but also of the extensive coverage last month in the Italian press of the Commission's decision to accelerate proceedings against Italy for non-compliance with Community legislation on drinking-water quality.

The Commission's decisions to take proceedings against member states for non-compliance with environmental law are decisions taken by the whole Commission and not by one Commissioner, although on my proposal. They are taken without any form of discrimination between member states and are subject in this and every other aspect to the control of the Court of Justice.

I can only regret that your article was written without due consideration of the true situation.

Yours sincerely,
CARLO RIPA di MEANA,
Commission of the European Communities,
200 rue de la Loi,
Brussels 1049.
February 24.

Gauntlet herewith

From Mr James Turner

Sir, I note with interest your leader-writer's enthusiasm for the return of the duel as a means of (alternative) dispute resolution ("Writs at dawn", February 20). As you may be aware, such opportunities are still available today, within the law, in Germany.

I am a barrister with similar enthusiasm (and some experience) in both duelling and dispute resolution. This is, I am sure you will agree, the perfect opportunity for your leader-writer to demonstrate that he can rise to the occasion (from his armchair) and exchange pen for sword.

Place, time, date and *Comment* to be fixed.

I remain, Sir, at your disposal,
JAMES TURNER,
2 Essex Court, Temple, EC4.
February 21.

From the Reverend Canon Peter Hawker

Sir, Your Diary's report, "Drawn at dawn" (February 20), and the mention of a duel some time in 1958 or 1959, is of great interest. In your issue of March 31, 1958, your Paris correspondent, in a report of the previous day, writes: "The duel between the Marquis de Cuevas and M Serge Lifar was fought this morning at a mill near Vernon, some 50 miles from Paris." It ends with the words: "The Marquis de Cuevas, who is 65, burst into tears after his victory" — for Lifar had suffered a slight wound in his right arm.

Some years before I had given lunch to Lifar in Sydney. I had always thought, when I heard of his duel, that I had entertained the last European duellist.

Yours faithfully,
PETER HAWKER,
20 Middleton's Field, Lincoln.

Queens on coins

From Mrs Marjorie Munro

Sir, In your third leader, "Point of decimal" (February 15), it was stated that the Queen's image looked miraculously as it did 40 years ago.

I have a collection of silver threepenny-bits; it is by no means complete, but I have been able to deduce that Queen Victoria's image — crownless, with her hair tied high at the back of her head — remained the same for at least 46 years.

The next image shows her wearing a crown and "widow's weeds" — I only have two of these, dated 1889 and 1891.

A later issue, ending at the time of her death in 1901, shows her looking older and stouter, still in the "weeds", but without an apparent crown.

Yours faithfully,
MARJORIE MUNRO,
Endways, 23 Kingsmuir Drive,
Peebles, Tweeddale.
February 19.

Bombs away!

From Dr Michael L. Stevens

Sir, James Airy (letter, February 20) has it right and wrong simultaneously: right in that Greenwich Park does indeed have one of London's finest architectural views, wrong in that this view is essentially uni-directional.

Wren's buildings serve to focus the eye most gloriously on the earlier work of Inigo Jones, with the observatory placed delightfully above and to one side. But this was clearly designed to be seen from the north, and the magic works only from there.

Perhaps we should not castigate the architects of Canary Wharf for spoiling this view, but congratulate them for creating so splendid a viewing platform.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL STEVENS,
333 Lyham Road, SW2.
February 20.

Aims for the NHS

From Sir Patrick Nairne

Sir, Whatever their own views on the reform of the NHS, many in the service and the Department of Health must feel dismay at the imminent possibility of yet another reorganisation (report and leading article, February 21). Whatever their personal political viewpoint, most people outside the service who use and care for it must deplore the lack of a bipartisan approach to the NHS in Westminster.

Instead of having to exercise a political choice between two different NHS systems they would, I suggest, prefer a political concordat based on sustaining and developing further what may be agreed to be the essential features of an efficient NHS. Put simply:

1. Patients to receive the best treatment available for their clinical needs, without concern for budgetary limits, but with proper regard for economy.

2. Hospitals to have the maximum independence in financial management, retaining the principle of the split between purchasers and providers, within the framework of health authority plans for regions and districts.

3. Health authorities to foster the active participation of doctors and nurses in managerial planning and decisions; to co-operate fully with local authorities and social services departments, and with general practitioners and family health service authorities, in community care, primary care, environmental health and preventive health measures; and to publicise effectively their policies and plans.

4. The general public to have confidence in the exercise of rights and the application of standards set out in the patient's charter.

Only the government in power can decide the level of public expenditure to be allocated each year to the NHS, and there will continue to be significant differences in the application of party policies. It would be reassuring, however, if all the political parties could make as clear as possible what essential features of efficient management will be maintained for the good health of the NHS.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK NAIRNE,
Yew Tree, Chilson,
Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire.

Lawyers' public image

From Mr Arnold Rosen

Sir, Dr Peter Gray (letter, February 21) compares the complaints machinery of lawyers unfavourably to that of doctors because proceedings are not held in public.

Publicity is not necessarily a criterion of fairness. The Sussex doctor who last year was publicly pilloried by two anonymous women complainants and subsequently found not guilty by the General Medical Council must wonder if a finding of guilt could have possibly done any more damage to his practice or his reputation amongst colleagues.

Professional men on professional charges need to be protected at least until after a finding of guilt. Even then it may mean the destruction of a career for what may merit nothing more than a rebuke.

I declare my interest. I am a solicitor and over the last two years have represented over 20 professional men in professional trouble. Even behind closed doors I have noticed a tendency to break butterflies on a wheel.

One of their principal complaints is that there is no right of appearance or representation at the first tier of disciplinary tribunal.

Dr Gray is worried about public confidence: I am concerned about the confidence of my profession in its own procedures.

Yours sincerely,
ARNOLD ROSEN,
Arnold Rosen & Co. (solicitors),
199 Piccadilly, W1.

Where's the mutton?

From Mr Frank Elgar

Sir, The blurb on my pack of shepherd's pie reads: "Traditional recipe. We take selected cuts of lean beef . . ."

Yours faithfully,
FRANK ELGAR,
Perry Orchard, Wingham,
Canterbury, Kent.
February 26.

Aid for paragons

From Mr Henry Thompson

Sir, I wonder if any of your readers can help me. I am thinking of setting up a 24-hour helpline for people who have absolutely nothing wrong with them. Although only a tiny minority, these people have to cope daily with the knowledge that they alone have no one to ring up and tell their troubles to (what with not having any in the first place).

I feel there is a definite need for short-term, medium-term and long-term counselling to help these unfortunates overcome their sense of deprivation and isolation in the community. Could any of your readers give me the number of the particular 24-hour helpline which gives advice to others on how to set up a 24-hour helpline?

Yours etc,
HENRY THOMPSON,
Froncysyllte, Llangollen, Clwyd.
February 17.

Sports letters, page 26

York reconstruction

From the Director of the York Archaeological Trust

Sir, The concern of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings about the Barley Hall project in York (letter, February 22) is surely misplaced. The society's chairman seems to assume that additions to important buildings, however poor, are somehow sacrosanct.

In-situ restoration as found does not cover all situations and it did not cover Barley Hall, where extremely important medieval structures were in an advanced state of decay, sealed behind the most ordinary of 19th and 20th-century additions. To have left them would have guaranteed the loss of the history of the building.

The complex of buildings was submitted to one of the most meticulous recording programmes ever undertaken. All survivors of the 520 or so timbers that constituted the original building were recorded, often in full-sized drawings supplemented by rubbings to record surface detail and treatment. Other elements of the standing buildings, including the 19th and 20th-century additions, were thoroughly described, photographed and sampled. Comprehensive archaeological excavations were undertaken in and around the buildings and an exhaustive survey was made of their documentary history.

The whole process was monitored by an academic advisory committee including some of the nation's most distinguished vernacular building specialists. Furthermore all those key elements of the original building too badly decayed to be reused were carefully sawn out and preserved for study by scholars.

The trust intends to maintain an archive of all this and to publish an account of the buildings and their history which should satisfy the most fastidious of students. The history of the building is now understood for the first time, widely available, and secure. So is the building.

A final point: the Barley Hall project has not been financed out of public funds, except for that rare thing, an EC grant.

Yours faithfully,
P. V. ADDYMAN, Director,
York Archaeological Trust,
1 Pavement, York.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 26: The Queen, attended by the Lady Farnham, the Rt Hon Sir Robert Fellowes, Sir Kenneth Scott, Mr Charles Anson, and Surgeon Captain Norman Blacklock, RN, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this morning from Australia.

Her Majesty ws received at the airport by Mr Michael Roberts (Managing Director, Heathrow Airport).

The Lady Elton has succeeded the Lady Farnham as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 26: The Princess Royal this morning visited the International Health Exchange, Africa Centre, 38 Great King Street, London WC2.

Her Royal Highness, Chancellor, University of London, this afternoon opened the new Wolfson Institute of Preventative Medicine at the Medical College of St Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London EC1.

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this evening attended the *Observer* bicentenary reception at the Observer Ltd, Chelsea Bridge House, London SW8.

Her Royal Highness afterwards attended a Dinner given by His Excellency the Ambassador of Chile and Señora Riesco at 92 Eaton Place, London SW1.

Mrs Richard Carew Pole was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
February 26: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Honorary Colonel, the London Scottish, was present this morning at a Reception given at Regimental Headquarters and subsequently honoured the Regimental Colonel (Colonel John Clemence) with her presence at luncheon in the Officers' Mess.

The Lady Margaret Colville and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 26: The Prince of Wales today visited Bradford and was received by Lieutenant Commander Douglas Crockatt (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of West Yorkshire).

His Royal Highness, President, Business in the Community, this morning visited Manningham Housing Association, Brearton Street, for discussions with Bradford Common Purpose Charitable Trust and other organisations concerning initiatives on affordable housing.

The Prince of Wales, President, the Royal College of General Practitioners, subsequently visited Marlborough Road Surgery, Manningham, to join discussions on healthcare with patients and medical staff.

His Royal Highness, President, the Prince's Trust and the Prince's Youth Business Trust, this afternoon met local community and business groups at the YMCA, Little Horton Lane.

Finally, The Prince of Wales met grant recipients of both Trusts and members of the West Bowling Youth Association at Parkside Street.

Mr Hugh Merrill and Lieutenant Commander Robert Fraser, RN, were in attendance.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association, today visited the Association's Clinic at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London WC1.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, Turning Point, subsequently visited the Charity's Roma Drug Project at 65-67 Talgarth Road, London W14.

Mr Patrick Jephson was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 26: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Australian Corps of Transport, this afternoon received Colonel G. C. Park, Director of the Australian Army Movements and Transport.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 26: The Duke of Kent, Vice Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning visited Beaumont Machine Tools Ltd, Coalville, Leicester, and was received on arrival by Major E.J.R.M.P. de Lisle (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire).

This afternoon His Royal Highness visited Cherry Valley Farms, Caistor and J. Mastenbroek and Company Ltd, Boston and was received on arrival by Lieutenant Colonel J.L.M. Dymoke (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Lincolnshire).

Captain the Hon Tom Coke was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent, President of the Scout Association, this evening attended a dinner given by the Chief Scout at the Naval Club, Hill Street, London W1.

Commander Roger Walker was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
February 26: Princess Alexandra this afternoon visited, on the occasion of its centenary, St Luke's Hospital for the Clergy, 14 Fitzroy Square, London W1.

The Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

Birthdays

Miss Marian Anderson, contralto, 90; Mr Paddy Ashdown, MP, 51; Lord Belhaven and Stenton, 65; the Marquess of Bute, 59; Sir Michael Butler, pro-provost and chairman of council, Royal College of Art, 65; Viscount Cowdray, 82; Sir Peter Emery, MP, 66; Sir Berkeley Gage, diplomat, 88; Viscount Head, 55; Mr Mervyn Jones, author, 70; Mr Michael Kaye, director, City of London Festival, 67; Mrs Barbara Kelly, chairman, Scottish Consumer Council, 52; Sir Hugh Leggatt, art dealer, 67; Mr Edward Lucie-Smith, poet and art critic, 59; Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith, chairman, Sears, 59; Mr Ralph Nader, consumer protection pioneer, 58; Rabbi Julia Neuberger, 42; Mr Alberto Remedios, opera and concert singer, 57; Sir Algernon Rumbold, diplomat, 86; Mr Gene Sarazen, golfer, 90; Professor Roger Scruton, philosopher, 48; Mr M.M. Shearer, Lord Lieutenant of Shetland, 68; Miss Antoinette Sibley, prima ballerina, 53; Sir Andrew Sloan, former chief constable, Strathclyde, 61; Miss Elizabeth Taylor, actress, 60; Air Marshal Sir Sandy Wilson, 51; Lord Young of Graffham, 60.

The Hon Mrs Richard Milner gave birth to a daughter in Jersey on February 3.

MARC ASPLAND

Alex Crawley, aged four, enjoys the fun at a party to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the National Kidney Research fund held at the House of Commons yesterday. Alex, from Thaxted, Essex, was among 25 young kidney transplant patients from around the country who were joined by MPs for the event

Today's royal engagements

The Princess of Wales, Patron of the Foundation for Conductive Education, will attend the "Stepping Stones" Business luncheon at the Carlton Tower Hotel at 12.25.

The Duke of York will attend the St Vincent Spring term divisional dinner at the Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, at 7.15.

The Princess Royal will open the Blackwater Leisure Centre, Maldon, Essex, at 10.00; the Kingsdown Handicapped Children's Adventure Playground, Eastwood, at 10.50; the new offices for Castle Point District Council, Benfleet, at 11.30; and Queen's Park Court, Billericay, at 12.25. She will visit a Rural Housing Project in Feering at 2.10; will open the Mother and Baby Units at College House, Braintree, at 2.50; and the Arts Centre at Newport Free Grammar School at 3.50. Later, she will address the National Westminster Bank's Discretionary Powers Club at NatWest Hall, Old Broad Street, at 7.00; and afterwards attend a dinner the NarWest Tower.

The Duke of Kent, Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, will attend the annual dinner at Grosvenor House at 7.15.

Princess Alexandra will attend a service of thanksgiving for St Botolph's Crypt Centre at St Botolph-without-Aldgate at 5.30 followed by a reception at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, Dukes Place.

Requiem Mass

Mr George Barker
A memorial Requiem Mass for Mr George Barker was celebrated by Father Wilfrid Tighe at Brompton Oratory yesterday. Mr Edward Farrelly, Mrs Olga Damant and Father Tighe read the lessons. Mr Eddie Linden, Editor of *Aquarius*, also representing the Poetry Society, led the prayers and Mr Oliver Bernard gave an address.

Dinners

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was host at a dinner last night at 10 Downing Street in honour of An Taoiseach Mr Albert Reynolds, TD. The other gusets were:

Mr David Andrews, TD, Mr Padraig Flynn, TD, the Ambassador of the Republic of Ireland, Mr Dermot Nally, Mr Noel Dorr, Mr Sean O hUiginn, Mr Jim Brosnan, the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, Mr Tristan Garel-Jones, MP, Dr Brian Mawhinney, MP, Sir Robin Butler, Mr David Blatherwick, Mr John Chilcot and Mr Stephen Wall.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
The Speaker held a dinner last night at Speaker's House for retiring members of the Executive Committee of the United Kingdom branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. The guests were:

Sir Bernard Braine, MP, Sir Paul Dean, MP, Mr Ted Garrett, MP, Mr Merlyn Rees, MP, Mr Donald Anderson, MP, Lord Bottomley, Lord Carlisle of Bucklow, QC, Sir Anthony Durant, MP, Mr George Foulkes, MP, Mr Bryan Gould, MP, Lord Harmar-Nicholls, Sir Peter Hordern, MP, Mr Michael Jopling, MP, Dr John Marek, MP, Mr Gordon Oakes, MP, Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, MP, Mr Colin Shepherd, MP, Mr Michael Shersby, MP, Mr Peter Shore, MP, the Rev Martin Smyth, MP, Mr Bowen Wells, MP, Canon Donald Gray and Mr Peter Cobb.

Yeoman Warders
Prince Michael of Kent attended the annual dinner of the Body of Yeoman Warders held last night at HM Tower of London. The principal guests were:

Field Marshal Sir John Stanier, Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Wilkes, Lieutenant-General Sir Derek Boorman, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Beverley, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Christopher Thompson, Sir Peter Imbert, Major-General M J Tennant, Major-General C Tyler, Major-General F G Sugden, Major-General M S Heath and Mr Robert Hardy.

Farmers' Company
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual dinner of the Farmers' Company held last night at Drapers' Hall. Mr Henry Nevile, Master, presided and Mr Timothy Renton, Minister for the Arts, was the guest speaker. Among others present were:

Baroness Trumpington (Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), Mrs Renton, Mrs Nevile, the Senior Warden and Mrs Triton, the Junior Warden and Mr Wheatley-Hubbard, the Chairman of the Farmers Club and Mrs Voelcker, the Masters of the Drapers', Fletchers', Musicians' and Information Technologists' Companies and the Master of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames and their ladies.

Coningsby Club
Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Education and Science, was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the officers and committee of the Coningsby Club last night at the Carlton Club. Mr Nicholas Botterill, chairman, presided.

Danish-UK Chamber of Commerce
Mr John Gummer, MP, was the guest of honour and speaker at a dinner of the Danish-UK Chamber of Commerce held last night at Skinners' Hall. Sir Ronald McIntosh, chairman of the chamber was the host. The Danish Ambassador was among the guests.

Francis Holland School

The biennial Old Girls' Party will be held on Monday, March 2, 1992, from 6-8pm, at the school. RSVP Francis Holland School, 39 Graham Terrace, London, SW1W 8JF. Telephone 071-730 2971.

Appointments

Judge Ann Marian Ebsworth to be a Justice of the High Court, assigned to the Queen's Bench Division.

Ian Stuart Lamb to be a full-time Chairman of Industrial Tribunals, assigned to the London (South) region.

Sir Charles Villiers

A Requiem Mass for Sir Charles Villiers, MC, will be held at Brompton Oratory on Thursday, March 12, at 11.00am.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: William George Frederick Cavendish Bentinck (Lord George Bentinck), statesman, Welbeck Abbey, 1802; Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet, Portland, Maine, 1807; Dame Ellen Terry, actress, Coventry, 1847; Sir Hubert Parry, composer, Bournemouth, 1848; Rudolph Steiner, educator, Kraljevic, Austria, 1861; Marino Marini, sculptor, Pistoia, Italy, 1901; John Steinbeck, novelist, Nobel laureate 1962; Salinas, California, 1902.

DEATHS: John Evelyn, diarist, Wotton, Surrey, 1706; John Arbuthnot, physician, mathematician, and wit, London, 1735; Samuel Langley, aeronautics pioneer, Aiken, South Carolina, 1906; Adam Sedgwick, geologist, London, 1913; Peter Behrens, architect, Berlin, 1940; Konrad Lorenz, scientist and physiologist, Nobel laureate 1973, 1989.

Service dinners

RCT
Major-General J.D. MacDonald, Director General of Transport and Movements, and Officers of the Royal Corps of Transport held a dinner last night at their Headquarters Mess, Aldershot. Brigadier A.C. Massey presided.

Manchester and Salford Universities Air Squadron
Squadron Leader R.C. Wright, Officer Commanding, Manchester and Salford Universities Air Squadron, presided at the annual dinner held last night at Altcar Training Camp, Merseyside. Air Marshal Sir Michael Simmons, Deputy Controller Aircraft, was the guest of honour and Air Vice-Marshal D. Cousins, Air Officer Commanding and Commandant, RAF College Cranwell, and faculty members of the universities were among others present.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.L. Casson and Miss A.J. Utley
The engagement is announced between Randal Lewis, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Casson, Melbourne, Australia, and Alison Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Utley, Sheffield.

Mr A.J. Eaton and Miss H.A. Rose
The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Vice Admiral Sir Kenneth and Lady Eaton, of Warnford, Hampshire, and Helen, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Paull Rose, of Westhope, Shropshire.

Mr D.J. Flowers and Miss N.K. Hicks
The forthcoming marriage is announced between Daniel, third son of Mr Adrian Flowers and Mrs Angela Flowers, and Nicola, daughter of Mr Philip Hicks and Jill Tweed.

Mr R.G. Hitchcock and Dr S-C. Hall
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Hitchcock, of Birmingham, and Stephanie-Claire, daughter of Professor and Mrs Reginald Hall, of Cardiff.

Dr A.C.W. Ionides and Dr C.M. Pierce
The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Ian Weekley, of Lamas, Norfolk, and Anthea Goldsmith, of 22 Well Walk, NW3, and Christine Maria, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Frank Pierce, of 34 Hans Road, SW3.

Mr R.A.S. Johnston and Miss A.J. Lea
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr Andrew Johnston, of Harare, Zimbabwe, and of the late Mrs Andrew Johnston, and Annabel, elder daughter of the late Lieutenant General Sir George Lea, and of Lady Lea, of St Brelade, Jersey.

Mr A.N. Karakusevic and Dr C.A. Holden
Mr and Mrs R.A.C. Holden, of Cheltenham, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Caroline, to Sasha, elder son of Mr and Mrs B. Karakusevic, of Woolley, Derbyshire.

Mr G.P.C. Mackay and Miss T.J. Snyder
The engagement is announced between Giles, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Oliver Mackay, of Diss, Norfolk, and Tammy, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Snyder, of Virginia, USA.

Mr J.C. Murrin and Miss L.M. Elkins
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs P.J. Murrin, of Sully, South Glamorgan, and Laura, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs J.S. Elkins, of Ditchling, Sussex.

Mr R.M. Pinkham and Miss P.J. Weld
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of the late Leslie H. Pinkham and of Mrs Barbara Pinkham, of Horsham, West Sussex, and Priscilla, only daughter of the late Major R.E. (Paddy) Weld, RTR, and of Mrs Jean Weld, of Camberley, Surrey.

Mr J.A. Redford and Miss S.A. May
The engagement is announced between John Anthony, younger son of Mr and Mrs P. Redford, of Kensington, London, and Samantha Ann, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs P. May, of The Watergardens, Kingston Hill, Surrey.

Mr N.J.M. Royle and Miss P.V. Grant
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr Julian Royle, of Masonetts, Fryerning, Essex, and the late Mrs Elizabeth Harwood Royle, and Polly, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Grant, of Gwendolen Avenue, London, SW15.

Mr W.S. Townsend and Miss S.L. Andrewes Uthwatt
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Townsend, of Gisburn, Lancashire, and Sally, elder daughter of the Revd and Mrs Henry Andrewes Uthwatt, of Bath.

Mr P.J. Whyte and Miss M. Kapoor
The engagement is announced between Peter, only son of Commander and Mrs M. Whyte, of Plymouth, and Monica, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs P.D. Kapoor, of Essex.

Luncheons

Parliamentary and Scientific Committee
Sir Ian Lloyd, MP, President of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, presided at the annual luncheon held yesterday at the Savoy Hotel. Lord Flowers, Chairman of the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology, was the guest of honour. Among others present were:

The Chinese Ambassador, the Earl of Bessborough, Earl Jellicoe, the Earl of Listowel, the Earl of Cranbrook, the Earl of Shannon, the Earl of Ilchester, the Earl of Selborne, Lord Shackleton, Lord Todd, OM, Lord Gregson, Lord Zuckerman, OM, Lord Kennet, Lord Porter of Luddenham, OM, Lord Sherfield, Lord Stoddart of Swindon, Baroness Lockwood, Lord Rea, Mr Harold Walker, MP, the Hon Mark Lennox-Boyd, MP, Sir Michael Atiyah, Sir Gerard Vaughan, MP, Sir Alastair Pilkington, Sir Mark Richmond, Sir Diarmuid Downs, Sir Trevor Skeet, MP, and Sir David Price, MP.

Southern Africa Association
Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister for Overseas Development, was the guest of honour at the annual luncheon of the Southern Africa Association held yesterday at the Charing Cross Hotel. Mr P.D.O. Liddell, chairman, presided.

Middle East Association
Lord Prior was the principal guest at the annual luncheon of the Middle East Association held yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Mr B.P. Constant, chairman, and Sir James Blyth, president, also spoke. Ambassadors of Middle East countries and other members of the Diplomatic Corps were present.

Rotary Club of London
Mr David Blake was the speaker at a luncheon of the Rotary Club of London held yesterday at the Café Royal. Mr Ken Standish, president, was in the chair.

High Sheriff of Greater Manchester
The High Sheriff of Greater Manchester and Mrs Wilson were hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at the Crown Courts, Manchester.

British Library Centre for the Book

Penelope Lively will be giving a lecture, jointly sponsored by the Centre and The Society of Authors, on "The Writer as Reader" on Tuesday, March 10, at 6.00pm in the British Museum Lecture Theatre, Great Russell Street. Free tickets are available from The British Library Centre for the Book, Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3DG. Please send a stamped addressed envelope.

You, Lord, will not withhold
your tender care from me;
may your love and truth for
ever guard me.
Psalm 40 : 11 (REB)

BIRTHS

BADENOCH - On February 24th, to Michele and David, a daughter, Charlotte Louise, a sister for Katherine and Thomas.

CASS - On February 26th 1992, to Carol (née Boag) and Richard, a son, Alistair Richard, a brother to Emily and Lucy.

COOPER - On February 21st, at St George's Hospital, to Sophie (née Agate) and Jonathan, a daughter, Alice Victoria Agate.

CROCKER - On February 23rd, to Susan (nee Clayton) and Philip, a daughter, Clarice Holly, a sister for Charles.

DAVIS - On February 15th, at Solihull Hospital, to Jill (née Woodward) and Jon, a son, Michael James.

FITZGERALD - On February 23rd 1992, at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Rebecca (nee Fraser) and Edward, a second daughter, Atalanta Rose

FRANKS - On February 25th 1992, to Sarah (née Bagnall Smith) and Stephen, a son, *Fergus William, a brother for* Archie and Henry.

GRANT - On February 25th at The Lindo Wing, St Mary's, Paddington, to Katrina (nee Evill) and Andrew, a son, Hamish William Fothergill.

GREEN - On February 19th, at Whipps Cross, to Julie (nee Pollock) and Colin, a daughter, Rachel Emily, a sister for Jessica, Helen and Maria.

HALE - On February 23rd, in Bordeaux, to Vitaline and Timothy, a son, William Norman, a brother for Stephane.

HOLDSTOCK - On February 23rd, at Hillingdon Hospital, *to Joan (née Moriarty)* and Greg, a son, Sam, a brother for Harry and Jack.

LLOYD - On February 22nd, to Sally (nee Hemmens) and Simon, a daughter, Hannah Amy

MARX - On February 14th, to Caroline and Geoffrey, a daughter, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Sarah, a sister for Sophie.

McCARTHY - On February 26th 1992, to Rowan (née Bray) and Philip, a daughter, Victoria Elizabeth.

MOSS - On February 24th, to Susannah (nee Yerburgh) and Edward, a daughter, Theodora, a sister for Alice and Victoria.

MUNTZER - On February 24th, to Mickey (nee Snellgrove) and Nigel, a daughter, Katharine Anne.

PITMAN - On February 15th 1992, to Ruth (née White) and Hugh, a son, Alexander James

BIRTHS

RAWE - On Thursday February 20th, at The Rosie Maternity Hospital, to Jane (née Barnard) and Mark, a daughter, Georgina Alice Temple, a sister for Frederick.

RIZK - On January 21st, to Carol (née Read) and Gilbert, a daughter, Natasha Chloé.

THOMAS - On February 24th 1992, at Pembury Hospital, to Vicky (née Stoodley) and Mark, a son, Robert David George

TINDALL - On February 24th, to Jude (née Tompkinson) and Mark, a son, Donald

TRESMAN - *On January* 30th, to Susan (née Adams) and Geoffrey, a daughter, Rachel Esther Mary, a sister to Sarah, Daniel and Rebecca.

WELBY - On February 20th, in Durham, to Caroline (née Eaton) and Justin, a daughter, Eleanor Anita Jane, a sister for Tim, Katharine and Peter.

WRIGHT - On February 22nd, to Julia (née Smith) and Matthew, a daughter, Olivia Lucy.

ANNIVERSARIES

STEBBING - John & Margaret at St Andrew's Church, Buckland, Monarchorum, Devon, on 27th February 1937. Now at 12 Herondean, The Avenue, Chichester.

DEATHS

ADAMSON - On February 25th Dom James O.S.B. aged 94. Funeral at Prinknash Abbey, Gloucester, on Friday March 6th at 11 am.

BEAVAN - On February 25th, at Trinity Hospice, peacefully, John Derek, much loved by his sister Ann, all her family and his many friends. Funeral March 5th at 6.30 pm at All Saints, *Margaret Street*, W1. No flowers, but donations if wished to Trinity Hospice, The Chase, SW4

BENTLEY - On February 26th, in hospital after a short illness, Roy Eccles, dearly loved husband of Kaye and father of Christopher and Keven. Funeral Service at St Michael's, Chester Square, SW1, on Monday March 2nd 1992 at 4 pm. Private family burial to follow. No flowers but donations if desired to Trinity Hospice c/o J.H. Kenyon, 74 Rochester Row, Westminster SW1P 1JU.

COPEMAN - On February 24th, peacefully at *Horsham*, Kay (Kathleen Olive). Cremation private.

DEMETRIADI - On Tuesday February 25th. *Peacefully at* St Thomas's Hospital. Lt. Colonel George Demetriadi MBE, TD. Beloved husband of Elizabeth. Funeral private. No flowers or letters please.

DEATHS

BRADBURNE - On February 23rd 1992, peacefully at The Devonshire Nursing Home, Eastbourne, Vera Florence (Jill), aged 92. Wife of the late John Bradburne and daughter of the late Sir Edward Moore Bt. Funeral Service at St John's Church, Meads, Eastbourne, on Wednesday March 4th at 2.30 pm, followed by private cremation. *No flowers please* at her request. If desired, donations to the Society for the Social Welfare of the Blind, 124 Longstone Road, Eastbourne.

BRANSON - On February 25th, *peacefully in his sleep*, David, of Cobham, Surrey. Dearly loved husband of Hilda and brother of Bill. Funeral Service will take place at the Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham, on March 5th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Royal Marsden Cancer Research Fund, Downs Road, Belmont, Sutton, Surrey.

COOKE - On February 24th, peacefully at his home in Falmouth, Alfred Gordon, Canon Emeritus of Truro Cathedral. Beloved husband of Lynne (Mary) and father of Jennifer, Pamela, Barbara, Rosemary, Richard and Martin. Greatly loved father-in-law and devoted grandfather of his twelve grandchildren. Funeral at Truro Cathedral on Tuesday March 10th at 11.30 am, followed by cremation to be attended by family only. No flowers please, donations if desired to The Rural Churches Repair Fund, c/o Diocesan House, Kenwyn, Truro, Cornwall.

CROWTHER-SMITH - On Monday February 24th, at St Anthonys Hospital following an operation, Kate, the beloved wife of Charles Crowther-Smith. Funeral Service Friday February 28th at Christchurch, Sutton at 3.45 pm. Enquiries and flowers to W.A. Truelove & Son Ltd., 118 Carshalton Road, Sutton, Surrey (081) 642-8211.

de STROUMILLO - On February 25th 1992, in a nursing home, Carola (Tar) Shaw Birkbeck, in her 93rd year. Widow of Sacha de Stroumillo, mother of Minky and Rik, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private cremation, no flowers please.

de VIVENOT - On February 25th, suddenly but very peacefully at home, Baroness Hermine de Vivenot O.B.E. aged 84 years. Loving *mother of Francis and* grandmother of Caroline, James and Camilla. Funeral at St Thomas More Church, George Lane, Marlborough, on Tuesday March 3rd at 10am. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation.

GALLIANO - On February 20th 1992, in Sierra Nevada, Spain, in a skiing accident, Francis (Frank), Captain in the Gibraltar Regiment, aged 35 years, husband of Annie, father of Thomas and Helen, son of Paco and Lourdes, brother of Christina, Maggie and Victor and nephew of Jimmy and Victor. The funeral, with full military honours, took place on February 24th 1992 in Gibraltar.

GARMSTON - On February 21st 1992, suddenly, Andy, much loved and will be missed by family and many *friends. Details of funeral to* be announced later. Enquiries to Hanningtons Funeral Directors Ltd., 4/6 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex, tel: (0273) 778733.

GODFREY - On February 21st, at Farnborough Hospital, aged 71, James (Jim), formerly Daily Mirror employee. Funeral Friday February 28th 11 am at St Marks Church, Biggin Hill, Kent.

GRAY-STEPHENS - On February 24th 1992, suddenly at home, Ramsay Gray-Stephens, of Brenfield, Argyll. Deeply loved and loving, respected and missed husband of Tove, much loved and devoted father of Douglas, Gordon, Alan and Malcolm Stepfather of David and Alvilde, grandfather of Harriet, Christian and Thomas. Funeral and Service, 1.30 pm Friday February 28th Christchurch, Lochgilphead, Argyll. Donations to Duncuan Special Fund, Duncuan Hospital, Lochgilphead, preferred to flowers.

HALE - On February 24th, at home in Chiddingstone, William Robert, aged 97. The Funeral Service will be held at St Mary's on March 5th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please. If you would like to make a gift in his memory, a donation to The Talking Book Service, Great Portland Street, W1N 6AA, would be welcomed.

HARKER - On February 25th, peacefully in Southport, Dorothy Catherine, formerly of Malawi, Central Africa. Funeral, Monday March 2nd, 3 pm, Southport Crematorium. Donations in lieu of flowers to Queenscourt Hospice, Town Lane, Southport, PR8 6RE.

HOLDING-PARSONS - On February 24th, peacefully at home, Felicia, dearly loved wife of Graham, devoted mother of Diane, Berry and *Ali and loving grandmother* of Sophie, Edward: Louis, David: Alexander, Jeremy and Nicholas. Funeral at All Saints Church, Branksome Park, Poole, Dorset, on Friday February 28th at 2.15 pm. Flowers to Tapper Funeral Service, 32/34 Parkstone Road, Poole.

DEATHS

KNOWLES - On February 26th 1992, Dom Gervase Knowles, Monk of Ampleforth, aged 81. Funeral at Ampleforth Abbey, 12 noon, Friday February 28th.

MARCOU - On February 25th, Athina Erminia, one month old, beloved daughter of Manuel and Gioia. Funeral at St Sophia, Moscow Road, W2, Thursday February 27th at 10.30 am.

MARSH - On February 26th, at Frimley Park Hospital, Brian Adrian, aged 76, of El Candado, Malaga, Spain. Devoted husband of Klari and dear brother of Honoria. Funeral private.

MOORE - On Tuesday February 25th 1992, peacefully, Louise May (Helen), aged 99 years. Dearly loved wife of Aubrey for 74 years. Loving mother of Rosamond and Peter. A loving grandmother and great-grandmother. No flowers or mourning at her request. Donations if desired for St Mary's Church, Bloxham, c/o Humphris Funeral Directors, Albert Street, Banbury, Oxon OX16 8DG. Funeral at 11 am on *Tuesday March 3rd at St* Mary's Church, Bloxham

NANNY - On February 20th 1992 after a short illness, peacefully in hospital in Blois, aged 92. Beloved Nanny of Nanteuil and companion to four generations of the families Gardnor-Beard and Théry and countless students at the Château de Nanteuil. Private cremation has already taken place. Enquiries re memorial to David Pinckney 071-493 7262 (day) or 0730-893775

PENNELL - On February 23rd, in Christchurch, New Zealand, Reg, beloved husband of Mary and brother of Naomi.

PRATT - On February 26th 1992, peacefully at home, Dr. Oliver Edmund, D.Sc., F.R.C.Path., of Dulwich, London. Funeral 9.30 am Wednesday March 4th at St Thomas More Church, Lordship Lane, SE22. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to Brain Damage Research Trust, 36 Court Lane, London SE21 7DR.

RIGBY - On February 24th, peacefully after a sudden illness, Kay, widow of the late Sir Ivo Rigby. Much missed by all her friends. Funeral at Chelsea Old Church on Monday March 2nd at 9.30 am. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Guide Dogs for the Blind c/o J H Kenyon, 74 Rochester Row, Westminster SW1P 1JU.

SCHAEFER - On February 26th, peacefully at home, Helga Maria, aged 79 years, widow of Gerhart and mother of Elsie, Peter and Stephen. Service at Altrincham Crematorium on Friday March 6th at 11.30am. No flowers please. Donations if desired to St Ann's Hospice, 90 Deansgate Manchester. Enquiries to Ben Lloyd (F/D) Ltd. tel: 061-485 3135 or Poynton 872717.

TIMMINS - On February 23rd, at St Albans, Rev Leslie James Maxwell, Methodist minister and former director Churches Television Centre. Funeral Lambeth Crematorium, Blackshaw Road, London SW17, 2.30 pm Monday March 2nd. No flowers please. Donations to National Children's Home, 85 Highbury Park, London N5 1UD.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

OLDFIELD - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Pamela Oldfield will be held at St Michael and All Angels Church, Lyndhurst, Hampshire, at 11.30 am on Wednesday March 18th.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

MARTIN - Andrew Q.C died 27th February 1985. Lovingly remembered today and every day - Anna.

LEGAL NOTICES

EDWARD GROSVENOR-PAINE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the above disappeared from his home in New Orleans Louisiana USA on the 4th July 1989 and is considered an absentee under Louisiana Law and that Edward H Bergan & Patrick R Vance have filed an application to be appointed curator and undercurator respectively for the person and property of the above and that they may be so appointed after the expiration of ten (10) days from this date. Any opposition to their aforementioned application must be filed in the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans State of Louisiana proceeding No 91-1928-E.
By Order of the Court.

MEETING OF CREDITORS
RE: BELL
CONTRACTS LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
The First Meeting of Creditors of the above-named company will be held at 2.30 pm on 3rd March 1992 at the Conference Room, 49 Greenwich High Road, London SE10 8JL.

A list of names and addresses of the above-named company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Messrs Emmanuel Oak & Co., 311 Pump House, 49 Greenwich High Road, London SE10 8JL between the hours of 10am and 4pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.

Dated this 14th February 1992
John C Bell, Director

LEGAL NOTICES

HOVEWAY LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a Petition was on the 28th January 1992 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £590,100 to £1,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before His Honour Judge O'Donoghue at the The Court House, 1 Oxford Row, Leeds, on Thursday the 19th day of March 1992 at 2 p.m.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED this 27th day
of February 1992.
NAOMI TURL
of Beaumont and Son
Lloyds Chambers 1 Portsoken
Street, London E1 8AW.
Solicitors
for the above-named Company

Notice of Appointment of
Administrative Receivers
ATLANTIC COPIERS LIMITED
IN RECEIVERSHIP
Registered Number: 1291192. Nature of business: Retail and service of supplies for Photocopiers and Facsimiles. Trade classification: 22. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 17 February 1992. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Midland Bank plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: Edwin David Stanley Kirker and John Stewart Baird. Office Holder Nos: 8227 and 1074. Pannell Kerr Forster New Garden House 78 Hatton Garden London EC1N 8JA.

ROSSIE LEASING LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a Petition was on the 28th January 1992 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £1,260,000 to £1,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before His Honour Judge O'Donoghue at the The Court House, 1 Oxford Row, Leeds, on Thursday the 19th day of March 1992 at 2 p.m.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED this 27th day
of February 1992.
NAOMI TURL
of Beaumont and Son
Lloyds Chambers 1 Portsoken
Street, London E1 8AW.
Solicitors
for the above-named Company

Notice of Appointment of
Administrative Receiver
AUTOGLIDE (UK) LIMITED
Registered number: 2483187. Nature of business: Manufacturers of components for garage doors. Trade classification: 11. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 11 February 1992. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Cardale Doors Limited. Joint Administrative Receivers: FFA Wessely and CCA Morphitis Address: 401 St John Street London EC1V 4LH.

ROSSIE FINANCE LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a Petition was on the 28th January 1992 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £1,410,000 to £1,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before His Honour Judge O'Donoghue at the The Court House, 1 Oxford Row, Leeds, on Thursday the 19th day of March 1992 at 2 p.m.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED this 27th day
of February 1992.
NAOMI TURL
of Beaumont and Son
Lloyds Chambers 1 Portsoken
Street, London E1 8AW.
Solicitors
for the above-named Company

SEDGWICKS
(INTERIORS) LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company is to be held at 76, New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB on Monday 23 March 1992 at 11.15 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

Notice is also hereby given, pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that Jeremy Hugh Berman of Berley & Co., Chartered Accountants, 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above company and will furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably require.

Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged at the registered office of the company situated at Berley & Co., Chartered Accountants, 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB not later than 12 noon on Friday 20 March 1992
Dated 20th February 1992
E. Sedgwick, Director.

Legal Notices also appear on the Personal Page

PERSONAL APPEARS IN LIFE & TIMES SECTION - PAGE 21

Answers from page 16

UGGLESOME
(a) Horrible, gruesome, to make your hair stand on end and your teeth chatter, from the Old Norse *ugga* to fear, with cognates in all Nordic languages: "When I behold the ugglesome face of death, I am afraid, but when I consider Christ's amiable countenance, I take heart again."

FUSSOCK
(a) In the male chauvinist bias of language in northern British dialects, a fat, unwieldy woman: "'Ray' cried Billy, thae'rt nean beawn to run off they bargain because of this fussock making her din, arto?"

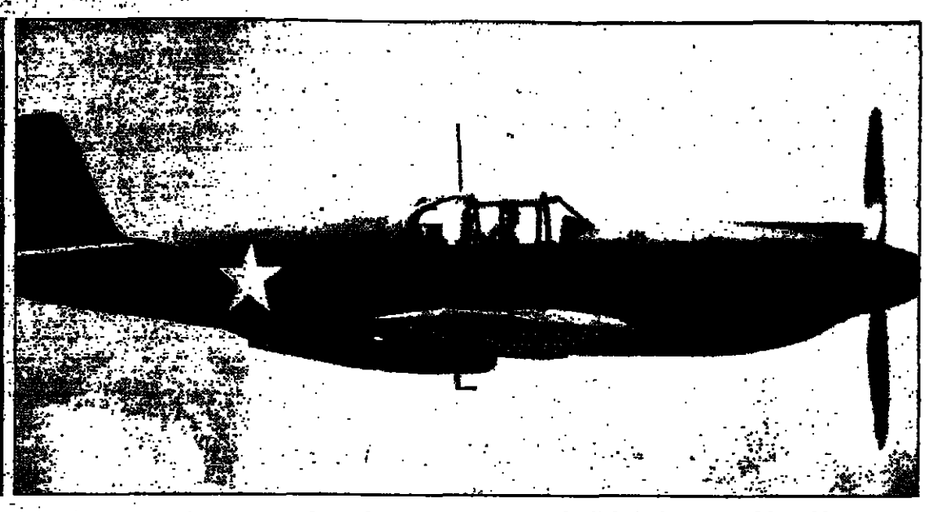
AULARIAN
(b) Belonging to a hall, most used in the early days of Oxbridge, when the halls were coalescing into colleges, from the Latin *aula* a hall: "Afterwards the Principal of Magdalen Hall entertained the Vice-Chancellor and Aularians with a glass of wine."

MERULATOR
(a) A wine-bibber or drunkard, orig. obsc.: "He is a juice-head, piss artist, rumpot, sauce hound, tosspot, bottle baby and chundering merulator."

OBITUARIES

ELDON CESSNA

Eldon Cessna, who died on February 22 in Inglewood, California, aged 84, was an American aircraft designer whose career began with light aircraft in the early 1930s, extended to second world war and Korean war fighters, and culminated in supersonic research vehicles and work on the space shuttle.



Eldon Cessna and the North American P-51 Mustang, perhaps the war's most successful fighter design on either side

ALTHOUGH his name is inevitably linked with the Cessna Aircraft Company, Eldon Cessna's association with the firm was relatively brief and the bulk of his work was in an aviation sphere far removed from the light, high-wing aeroplanes which are inextricably associated with the Cessna name. For the greater part of his career he was involved in the design of high performance military aircraft, ranging from the Mustangs of the second world war, through the Sabre jets of the Korean conflict to the North American Rockwell B-70 supersonic bomber project of the mid-1960s.

The Cessna company had been started by his father, Clyde Cessna, in 1927, but soon fell foul of the great depression and came close to bankruptcy. In desperation Clyde Cessna turned to his son in 1930 in the hope that his design of a simple glider, the CG-2, might save the company. The younger Cessna did better than that: he produced the Cessna Air Master, the first of a family of high-wing single-engined aircraft which did much to spread the popularity of private flying in America and throughout the world.

The Air Master saved the Cessna company. Derivatives of the original design are still in widespread use, especially for pilot training, though Cessna ceased light aircraft production in 1986 because of product-liability lawsuits in the United States and now concentrates mainly on building executive jets.

Eldon Cessna severed his links with the family firm in 1934 after disagreements with his younger cousin, Duane Wallace, who had taken control. He moved from Kansas to California, where he joined the Douglas Aircraft Co as a design engineer and then switched to North American Aviation, later to become Rockwell International, in 1938.

At North American he played a leading part in the design and engineering of two classic aircraft of the second world war: the Harvard trainer and the Mustang fighter. The AT-6 Harvard advanced trainer became standard equipment throughout the United States air forces and with the RAF throughout the war while the P51 Mustang, once it had exchanged its original Allison engine for a Rolls-Royce Merlin, became one of the truly great fighters of the war. The increased combat radius given by the Rolls-Royce engine enabled the Mustang to escort bombers to Berlin and beyond, thus subjecting the air defences of the Third Reich, which had actually defeated the American Flying Fortresses in 1943, to unrelenting pressure. Many examples of both aircraft are still maintained in flying condition by enthusiasts in the United States and the deep rasping note given out by the Harvard's engine and propeller tips, heard at close quarters, never fails to give the aircraft's devotees a thrill.

The jet era set the US Air Force and North American new problems as a fresh threat developed from the Soviet Union. Setting to work in 1946 the brilliant Russian design team Artem Mikoyan and Mikhail Gurevich had produced in little more than a year the swept-wing MiG-15 fighter which, with a maximum speed of 670 mph at sea level, threatened total air superiority over anything the Western air forces could throw against it. North American and Eldon Cessna rose to the challenge to produce by the middle of 1948 the F-86 Sabre, America's first swept-wing fighter.

The rival jets were soon to clash in the skies above Korea when it fell to the Sabre to bear the brunt of aerial combat against the formidable Russian fighter. In combat the Sabre came off with honours even, it being the opinion of American pilots that the Sabre was outclassed at high altitude but that it outperformed the MiG under 20,000 ft. The Sabre proved to be one of those excellent designs capable of great improvement and it repeatedly broke the world air speed record; an F-86D eventually pushed it up to 715.697 mph on July 16, 1953, in the era just before a new generation of jets broke through the sound barrier.

Cessna was later involved with development of the Bell X-15 rocket-powered experimental aircraft which was flown to speed and altitude records by the test pilots Chuck Yeager and Scott Crossfield. In the 1960s he worked on the North American XB-70 Valkyrie, a supersonic bomber project designed to find a successor to the aging Boeing B-57 as the spearhead of American strategic air power. In the event the high-level Valkyrie gave way to another Rockwell concept, the swing-wing, low-level intruder, the B-1, but not before some very remarkable results had been achieved. First flown in 1964 the Valkyrie achieved Mach 3 the following year and in 1966 flew at that speed for an unprecedented 32 minutes. Eventually the Valkyrie's flight programme was turned over to NASA to assist with high speed flight research. Subsequently Eldon Cessna worked on designs for the first Apollo lunar landing modules, and did early work on NASA's space shuttle before his retirement in 1969.

Cessna was a skilled pilot in his own right, taking part in many round-the-pylons air races, and despite his work with exotic machines he never forgot his roots in the most basic form of flying. He was only four in 1911 when he first saw his father fly a replica of the French Blériot monoplane and not much older when he watched his father wreck it. In later years he became intimately involved with the Experimental Aircraft Association, whose members produce home-built craft in the Blériot tradition, and was an unfailing visitor to the association's annual fly-in at Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Cessna is survived by his wife, Helen, whom he married in 1931, and two daughters.

SIR DEREK MARCH

Sir Derek Maxwell March, KBE, a former British High Commissioner to Uganda, died on February 15 aged 61. He was born on December 9, 1930.

FEW diplomats can match the achievement of Derek March. A builder's son from Plymouth, he joined the Foreign Office as a junior straight from school and rose to become a high commissioner and a knight. Trade and commerce provided the ladder up which he climbed. He had the foresight as a young man in the 1950s to perceive that this unfashionable specialisation was destined to grow in importance over the next quarter of a century.

He was also blessed with a measure of good fortune. For example, he found himself as first secretary (commercial) in Peking (1971-74) soon after the end of the cultural revolution. The western *rapprochement* with China had begun and British firms were starting to extend hopeful feelers in an attempt to win a share of China's growing trade with the outside world. March was clearly in the right place at the right time.

After three years in London on secondment to the Department of Trade and Industry, he was posted back to the Far East as senior British trade commissioner in Hong Kong — in effect the most senior British (as opposed to Hong Kong government) official in the colony. Again March found himself at the centre of affairs as companies from this country scrambled in competition with those from Western Europe, the United States and Japan for lucrative engineering orders as the burgeoning Hong Kong economy invested in large projects, including its underground railway and new tunnel from the island to Kowloon.

After five years in Hong Kong, which he later described as the most exciting of his career, he returned to the DTI for a second tour, by now an acknowledged Whitehall authority on international trade negotiations. He then left for Kampala in 1986 shortly after President Museveni had won power and had started to restore a kind of peace throughout most of the country. March was knighted in 1988 and after three years as High Commissioner retired in the following year.

Derek March was educated at Devonport High School and joined the diplomatic service at the age of 18. He left almost immediately for two years national service in the RAF. He then returned to the Foreign Office and in the early 1950s satisfied his original ambition of going to university by reading for a history degree as a part-time student at Birkbeck College, London. He later won his transfer from the executive grade of

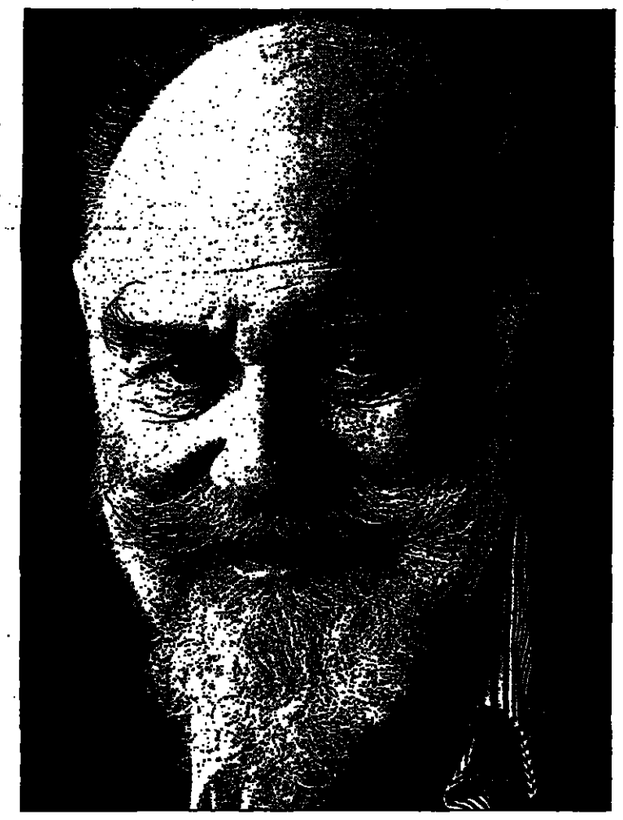
the diplomatic service to the administrative grade and began his steady ascent towards the top. His early postings were at Bonn, Hanover as vice-consul, Salisbury in Southern Rhodesia as assistant trade commissioner, Dakar as consul and Rawalpindi as first secretary (political) — his last foreign posting before Peking.

In private life March was an enthusiastic cricketer, military historian and Francophile. He was never more at peace with the world than when staying in the family holiday home in Languedoc.

He leaves his widow, Sally, two daughters and a son.

GUY DEGHY

Guy Stephen Deghy, actor and writer, died in London on February 25 aged 79. He was born in Budapest on October 11, 1912.



THE film and TV character actors who have been the mainstay of their precarious industry up and down the years are often themselves rich in character, if not in wealth. Guy Deghy was a notable example of their ilk.

He is one of those faces that is instantly recognisable on Channel 4 re-runs of films or old TV series. In his heyday 21 stone and 52 inches in girth, he frequently played villains or mittel-European baby-faced innocents abroad enmeshed, usually, in something internationally sinister.

Guy Deghy was born of improbably noble stock in Hungary: his grandmother, raised in a Transylvanian castle, would speak only court French, reserving Hungarian for her conversations with the cook; his parents, after the 1919 communist revolution, were taxed with the problem of whether their House Commissar should be treated as a guest or a jobbing salesman — they resolved it by allowing him to take his meals off the Steinway grand.

The family fortunes were large, if erratically handled — there had been an uncle who exported oil to Texas — but they were dissipated by the political situation, helped along by the extravagances of Deghy senior. Meanwhile his son was expensively absorbing culture in five languages — English not included — in the gymnasia of Budapest, the academies of Switzerland, the cafes of Vienna and Berlin, and above all the theatre where he quickly became stage-smitten. It was clear that the young Deghy would have to support himself. Putting the lecture halls of Zürich University behind him he enrolled at the Royal Hungarian Academy of Dramatic Art, worked as a dogsbody in Molnar's Comedy Theatre (where he later directed for a season) and after a compulsory spell in the army set himself up as a traveller in lavender water. Deghy was living more or less permanently in London at the time of the Munich crisis when Hungary, now Germany's ally, remobilised; he was called to the colours, failed to report for duty, was mandatorily sentenced to death, and did not return to Budapest for over 40 years. Meanwhile, having by now added English to his repertoire of languages, he won his first London stage part — understudy to Anton Walbrook in *Watch On The Rhine* at £8 a week.

The war intervening, he was drafted to the BBC Monitoring Service at Caversham. Post-war, this gave him an entrée to the BBC and after a spell with the Hungarian section at Bush House he became a radio drama producer in Leeds where, developing a talent for talent-spotting, he produced the earliest work of, among others, Allan Prior and Keith Waterhouse, and engaged the young Billie Whitelaw.

One evening in the celebrated Whitelock's Tavern Deghy was apprehended for drinking 15 minutes after hours and was fined £1 by magistrates. In the Reithian atmosphere of the day, this was enough to put paid to any higher BBC career prospects he may have entertained, and so he headed back for London where, between stints as a director at the old Torch and Q theatres, he resumed the acting life in earnest.

The bread and butter of this erratic livelihood was the spate of TV films which began in the mid-Fifties — *Stryker of the Yard*, *The Saint*, *Danger Man* and the torrent of half-hour quickies poured out by the Danziger Brothers, who could wrap up a production in three days flat at the Equity minimum of £7 a day, and by Harry Alan Towers who paid better but made them faster. In one Towers epic when Deghy and John le Mesurier were playing villains in a chase sequence, they were required to crouch behind a packing case. Told by the director to crouch even lower, Deghy protested: "This is just about as low as we can get." Out of the darkness came the voice of the cameraman: "You could be working for the Danzigers."

There were to be juicier parts, a crop of fat cameo roles in such films as *The Yellow Rolls-Royce*, *The Mouse That Roared*, *Where Eagles Dare*, *The Looking Glass War*, *Sammy Going South*, and many stage appearances.

His fortunes see-sawed with those of the industry and he cut his coat accordingly, always with good grace. When the work was not coming, he and his third wife Mari lived frugally in one room on cheap wine and stew. When the work was flowing in they continued to live in one room and dined at the White Elephant. Eventually stabilising between these two conditions, they settled in a pleasant flat in Fulham where they raised a family.

The gaps between acting were devoted to writing. Deghy's friendship with Keith Waterhouse, dating back to their Leeds days, led to their collaborating on a literary history of the Cafe Royal — a great success. Further books followed: under the pseudonym Herald Froy they wrote a string of humorous books, commencing with *How To Avoid Matrimony*. As Lee Gibb, they wrote a couple of satirical sociological treatises, *The Joneses: How To Keep Up With Them*, and its sequel, *The Higher Jones*. On his own account, Deghy wrote lively histories of Romano's and the National Sporting Club.

Guy Deghy was a man of many parts, but the parts grew fewer as he became older and more infirm, and the late evening of his life was spent listening to opera, working at his memoirs, and reminiscing with his friends.

He is survived by his wife Mari and their son and daughter, and by two sons from a previous marriage.

APPRECIATION

Bernard Krikler

AS ONE of his oldest friends, I would like to add a short appreciation to your obituary of Bernard Krikler (February 21) whom I first met at the University of Cape Town when he was demobilised after the war. He was not a model student, being more concerned with people then with academic commentary, but, while active in the student politics of the time, he had no patience with ideology and with the panaceas being offered to solve the country's problems. In earlier times he might have become the enlightened colonial officer, helping an African country towards independence, and it was a sadness to him that he could find no wider outlet for his undoubted qualities of leadership, well recognised by his many friends. These were drawn from a wide variety of professions and interests and to them he was a convivial, generous host, intelligent and perceptive, whose death leaves a deep gap.

Prof Sir Aaron Klug, FRS

HIS HONOUR JUDGE STANNARD

John Anthony Stannard, Circuit Judge, died on the February 12 aged 60. He was born in London on September 30, 1931.

WITHIN a year of John Stannard's elevation to the circuit bench in 1983 he was nominated to conduct Official Referee's business on the Northern Circuit. He created a set of standard directions in Official Referee's actions which became a model of their kind.

Under his supervision practitioners were attracted to his court rather than suffer the inconvenience of taking their cases to London. A disciplinarian in the enforcement of proper procedures and a master of the orders and roles of the supreme court practice, he brought satisfaction to lay clients by reason of the speed and fairness with which his work was conducted.

Educated at Quarry Bank High School, Liverpool, he went on to Trinity College, Cambridge, thereafter being called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn. He became the pupil, and joined the chambers, of Andrew Rankin in what had become his home town of Liverpool. He was introduced to a substantial practice of commercial and building work which was ideally suited to his love of the law and the detailed consideration of complicated facts.

Stannard was to his fellow judges on Merseyside a quiet, agreeable and ever helpful companion. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

MONSIGNOR FRANCIS BARTLETT

Monsignor Francis Bartlett, former administrator of Westminster Cathedral, died on February 12 aged 79. He was born on May 5, 1912.

FRANCIS Bartlett endeared himself to a huge circle of people of wide variety who enjoyed his wit and learning. He combined a great love of the world and its people with an utter devotion to his faith. He was also a great Londoner and, although he enjoyed his travels abroad, he never felt really at home anywhere else. The life of this metropolis was his constant joy.

Born in Kensington the ninth of 12 children, he spent most of his childhood — as he was subsequently to spend most of his priestly life — in Westminster Cathedral and its precincts. Cardinal Bourne was his godfather and his own father was the director of The Art and Book Company, which stood where the new piazza in the front of the cathedral now holds sway. It marked the death-knell of a number of buildings.

His mother belonged to an old Roman Catholic family upon whom the Birmingham Oratory of John Henry Newman had a considerable impact. Educated privately at home and later at Wimbledon College, Bartlett was then apprenticed to an engineering firm in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. This lasted only for two years; but it had an important impact on all his life and led to his priestly vocation.

He was sent to the Westminster Seminary of Allen Hall, which was then in the College of St Edmund's, Ware; and shortly afterwards, for five years, to the seminary of St Sulpice in Paris. Here he became bilingual and acquired new conceptions of civilisation. For his life was destined to be in it, but not of it. He was ordained priest by Cardinal Hinsley in 1935.

After curacies in Edgware and Kenton he joined the staff of Westminster Cathedral, which he already knew and loved. It was a place to whose development he was going to contribute in outstanding ways: materially, liturgically, pastorally, but also artistically and architecturally.

He had been brought up

with a great veneration for its spiritual stature as originally determined by Cardinal Vaughan, who built it as a memorial to Cardinals Wiseman and Manning, his predecessors. But also he had a deep regard for John Francis Bentley, the architect who had devised this great neo-Byzantine structure so that it would in no way seem to compete with the Gothic inspiration of Westminster Abbey or the classical style of St Paul's. And between 1954 and 1964 he mastered the completion of its marble revetment, as laid down by Bentley, together with the continuation of mosaics and other artistries which have made the cathedral what it is today.

Ultimately, he became its administrator (1967-1977), a canon and, in later days, the provost of its chapter. His worth was recognised by Pope Paul VI, who made him a monsignor and a prelate, and John Paul II, who made him a protonotary apostolic. The great crowds at his requiem showed the wealth of appreciation accorded him.

Apart from the 30 years he spent at Westminster Cathedral, he had more usual pastoral assignments at the Assumption, Warwick Street, and St Anselm and St Cecilia, Kingsway.

He was a voracious reader, an ardent member of the London Library and had an enormous array of books in his own quarters. He accumulated a fine collection of Newmanalia.

He had a love which combined both his faith and civilisation, and bespoke a much-needed optimism for the world of our time.

FEB 27 ON THIS DAY 1914

The description of a baseball match would hardly have attained top-of-the-column treatment had it not been given royal attention. As it was, a full column was devoted to a preview the day before, including a list of omnibuses passing close to the ground, a diagram of the field and a comparison with cricket. ("The smartest cricket team that ever fielded at Lord's would look, almost bunglers compared to a good baseball nine.")

THE KING AT THE BASEBALL

Chicago's Victory Over New York

The King was present at the Chelsea football ground, Stamford-bridge, yesterday afternoon to witness the baseball match between the two American teams, the New York Giants and the Chicago White Sox. His Majesty was received by the American Ambassador, who sat with him and explained the points of the game, the King asking many questions. His Majesty remained until the end of the match, which resulted in a win for Chicago by five runs to four.

The game was watched by about 25,000 spectators, and, considering the stickiness of the ground, the play was of a very high order. At the end of the nine innings the score stood 2-2. The 10th innings was extremely dramatic and produced two runs to each side, making the score 4-4. New York failed to score in the 11th, and Daly, the first man to go to the bat for Chicago, hit a magnificent home run and won the match.

Perhaps the greatest incident of the match was in Chicago's 10th innings. The score was 4-2 in favour of New York, and Chicago had two men out, with one (Weaver on second base, when Crawford came to bat. The situation cried aloud for a home run — and it came, the batsman lifting the ball gorgeously over the head of the left field into the middle of the spectators in the further stand, scoring (Weaver being on second base) the two runs necessary to tie the match.

English spectators, to whom the game was new, must yesterday have received certain definite impressions. First, it is clearly "glorified rounders". Of course, it has been immensely developed, and the fielders no longer have the youthful joy of "corking" the ball as hard as possible at the fleeing batsman. It is superbly organised and specialised in every detail; but the framework of the old English village game still remains. Secondly, in batting, in spite of all the gorgeous smiting that was seen, baseball does not compare with cricket. Next, the cleverness and velocity of the pitching are wonderful. Finally, there is no fielding in cricket which approaches the fielding and throwing which were seen yesterday. The catching (in the cricket sense) was extremely good; but the real marvel of the game was the almost indescribable suddenness and accuracy of the returns. The throwing from all points was approximately perfect. The catching (again in the cricket sense) almost as perfect, and, in the case of both Merkle and Daly, at 1st base, quite beyond praise. Before the game began (the King did not arrive until a few minutes before 3 o'clock) an exhibition of hitting, fielding, and throwing was given by members of the two teams, which delighted the spectators, one excellent piece of fooling being when the New York men for several minutes played with an imaginary ball. Members of the crowd contributed their share to the entertainment by pleading with the pitcher to kill the batsmen. Altogether, it was an excellent game but, to English spectators — it was not cricket. It cannot be said that the crowd showed any evidence of thinking that baseball is ever likely to supersede our national game.

Car clamping weapon goes into poll tax bills battle

BY LOUISE HIDALGO

POLL tax inspectors want to clamp the cars of non-payers as part of their measures to recover an estimated £2 billion in unpaid bills.

At a London meeting yesterday inspectors from 50 metropolitan and district councils agreed that clamping could be a useful weapon after successful experiments in some areas.

In Kirklees, West Yorkshire, 60 cars, including a new Mercedes, have been clamped or seized to persuade into paying those people who can afford to pay the tax but choose not to.

In Leeds a meeting of the council's policy and resources committee voted to introduce clamping for non-payers. The full council votes next week.

Martin Pilgrim, under secretary for finance at the Association of Metropolitan Authorites, which organised yesterday's meeting, said that in Kirklees "all but six of the clamped owners subsequently paid up."

The target of the clampers would be defaulters thought to be able to afford to pay their demands. Bailiffs would clamp their cars and non-payers would have to pay the poll tax and the cost of having the clamp removed.

Councils are still considering the legal implications. Under present regulations they can, with a magistrates' court order, send in bailiffs to seize an individual's goods. Those can be held as security or sold at auction.

A car would fall into the category of goods, although it is unclear whether, in a case where someone depended on their car for work, it would be exempt. Councils would have to take care that is was not a company car, according to Marc Dight, a barrister specialising in property law. "A taxi, for example, might be registered in an individual's name but not actually be owned by him. The council could find itself liable for loss of earnings or compensation."

Councils might also find themselves responsible for paying insurance or tax on the car if they expired while the vehicle was clamped on a public highway, he said. Councils can check a car's registration against the owner's details through the licensing centre in Swansea only if they can establish a "right to know".

Conscripts at space centre riot

Continued from page 1

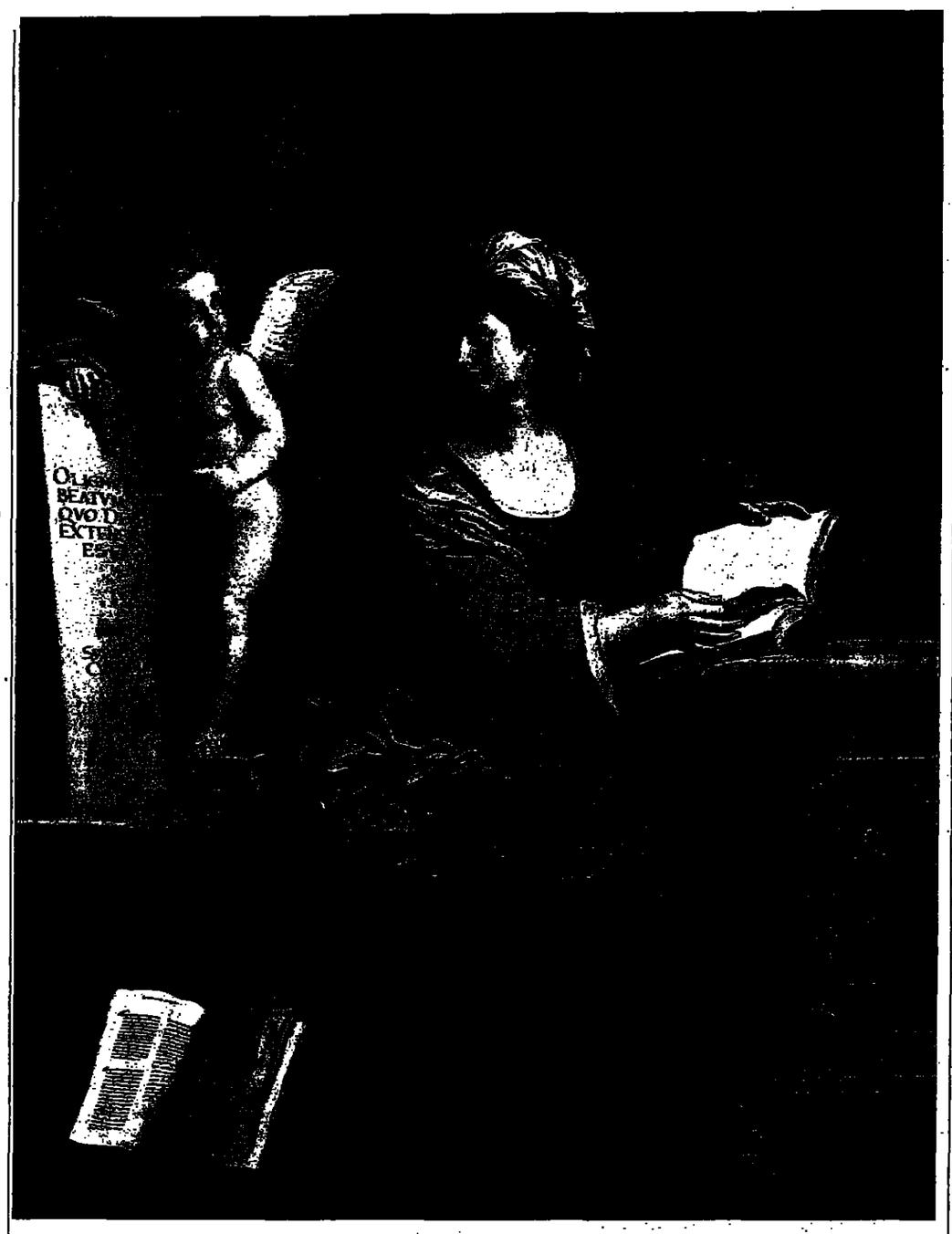
Leninsk, and that the disturbances followed an attempt by his comrades to free him.

According to the independent Interfax news agency, a second attempt widened to rioting when two dozen conscripts stormed the post and set fire to barracks. The three soldiers are said to have died in the fire.

On Monday, according to another report, several hundred conscripts, most of them Kazakhs, had marched on the centre of Leninsk demanding the dismissal of officers for "humiliating junior recruits", better food supplies, better uniforms and more cigarettes. They also claimed that more than 300 of their number had been declared unfit for service by doctors and should be sent home.

The unrest reported from Baikonur is not the first instance of a disturbance with racial overtones involving servicemen: late last year Soviet television interviewed Russian and Central Asian conscripts who had taken part in a day-long fight at barracks in southern Russia. But it is the first documented case since the end of the Soviet Union.

A Kazakhstan government commission has flown to Leninsk to investigate the rioting. Tass said that servicemen with health problems had now been home.



Italian baroque masterpiece: detail from Guercino's *The Cumaean Sibyl with a Putto (1651)*

Masterpiece shown after Renton relents

BY SIMON TAIT
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A CHANGE of heart by Tim Renton, the arts minister, has brought one of the finest examples of 17th century baroque painting to the National Gallery.

Sir Denis Mahon, owner of Guercino's *The Cumaean Sibyl with a Putto*, telephoned approval of its loan to the gallery after attending Tuesday's select committee at the House of Commons, where Mr Renton's museums and galleries bill was altered to continue government indemnity of paintings lent to the nation. The original wording gave galleries primary responsibility for insuring loans.

Sir Denis, who has one of the finest private collections of 17th century Italian painting, said: "The director of the National Gallery, Neil MacGregor, asked me to lend the painting, but I was going to say no if the clause in the bill had remained. I lend a lot of paintings around the world but they are extremely valuable and I never allow them to go unless they are guaranteed by government. I was at the select committee meeting and as soon as I saw the clause withdrawn I telephoned Mr MacGregor to approve the loan."

The picture now faces another of Sir Denis's loans to the gallery, Guercino's *Elijah Fed By Ravens*, which was painted 30 years earlier.

Political sketch

Hobbyhorses bog down in the mire

At the dispatch box yesterday the chief secretary, David Mellor, became the first cabinet minister to say "Yah" from the front bench. Later he said: "Pretty Polly, pretty Polly". Shortly after that he said: "Quack, quack". If these are the sounds of battle at February's end, what shall we hear by April?

Yet Mellor has a point. The argument is exhausted. Until an election intervenes to terminate this nonsense, animal noises and German monosyllables are all that remain. Interest in the match, the pitch and the players is fading at Westminster.

Nowhere was this more true than at Scottish questions yesterday. Anthony Steen (C, S Hams) addressed Michael Forsyth as the secretary of state. The junior minister did not bother to correct him. MPs bobbed dutifully up and down. Eyes bulged, faces reddened, Scots ladies and gentlemen huffed and puffed as their constituents require. But (though the Tory front bench, led by Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, put up their bravest and most coherent performance for months) on neither side were backbench hearts in it. Half of them might not be here the other side of an election. There will be new faces reddening, new eyes bulging, new tonsils waggling, by summer.

Peering down at Jimmy McThis and Gordon McThat, the melancholy truth dawned upon your sketchwriter that there will soon be a fresh bunch to learn, *and it was no longer necessary* to try to remember these ones' names. The players will change.

But not the play. Scottish devolution came up yesterday. It always does. So did the A830 from Fort William to Mallaig, an old friend. The A1 made its usual appearance, as did economic development in Lanarkshire. Scottish hospitals and Scottish local authorities waited their turn, as ever, Scottish fisheries in line behind them.

The same old chestnuts, debate after debate: the same old questions, year after year. Hobbyhorses remain: riders change. Questioners come and questioners go, but what endures from parliament to parliament are the questions. Given that on Scottish occasions it is these, not the MPs, who are the familiar team, why not put the questions first, then see who wants to ask them?

Why not decide at the start of each parliament what the Scottish questions *are* (there are about ten) then let MPs draw lots as to who should ask which? They are all equally good at asking any of them, and the replies never change, so they could take turns to give each other the answers. *Devolution*: Irene Adams (Lab, Paisley N); *Economy of Lanarkshire*: Dr John Reid (Lab, Motherwell N); *Fisheries*: Mrs Ray Michie (Lib Dem, Argyll & Bute) ... Next time they could all swap.

Wearily, I left to watch a forlorn SDP press preview of last night's party political broadcast. It was too awful: the video wouldn't work. The hapless SDP lady struggled with the controls while, on the television itself, a news programme about Mr Gorbachev's retirement crackled cheerily out at us.

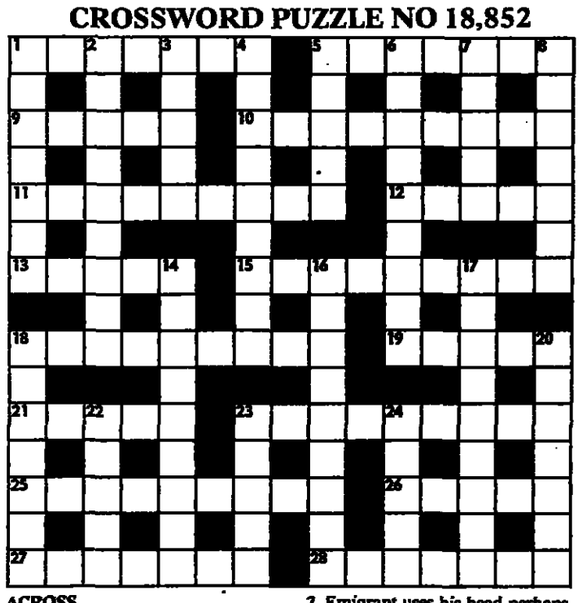
"Bother," said the SDP lady, frantically pressing buttons. "We spent 39,000 roubles last month," said Mr Gorbachev. "I'm terribly sorry, gentlemen," said the SDP lady. "And Raisa's pension is the same," said Mr Gorbachev. "So it's back to work for this pensioner," said the TV commentator, "he needs to earn hard currency. The Gorbachevs know their *time has passed*".

Do the SDP? I think so. Finally the SDP lady got the video working, and we watched John Cartwright (Woolwich) and Rosie Barnes (Greenwich) explain what they meant by the "head" and the "heart" of the SDP creed.

It would be easy to mock the PPB, which was obviously made with no budget: but at least it lacked artifice. I persist in finding John Cartwright an impressive politician. He makes a good head, and Mrs Barnes a good heart. It's just a pity about the legs and arms.

MATTHEW PARRIS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,852



ACROSS

1 Not easy to take in answer from this record (7).
5 Dormouse, for example, or mole (7).
9 Tories' privilege (5).
10 Go and request dancing together — fantastic outcome (9).
11 Engage to put in the earth and seal (9).
12 Welcome cry (5).
13 Funds for the channel (5).
15 A square of cheese (9).
18 Finnish flag we hear is so variegated (9).
19 No sound made by Rosinante? (5).
21 Capri landscape showing sign of Spring (5).
23 Small bed with a light behind it (6-3).
25 Eight pats cooked in a dish (9).
26 Depend on second-rate hemp (5).
27 Second uncle named in the *Merry Wives* (7).
28 Urged on perhaps to get the poet's reward (7).

DOWN

1 Victor is married — shows fortitude (7).
2 Emigrant uses his head perhaps in this dream of retirement (9).
3 Thespian performance by soldiers (5).
4 Boxer's neckwear (3-6).
5 Flying midwife? (5).
6 Retaining one's vigour — always on the go? (9).
7 Resentment at its height vocally (5).
8 What to do after on-off performance? (2-5).
14 Walked on water by the sound of it (9).
16 Making an impression by giving an order (9).
17 Dog food on the back of a lorry (9).
18 State the whole counthry's in, according to O'Casey (7).
20 SHAPE one up on U.S Dept. of Defense (7).
22 He wrote about a Dutch entanglement initially (5).
23 Vital element in decisive battle (5).
24 Sad missing start of card game (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,851

D	U	M	P	L	I	N	G		D	O	E	S	U	P
I		E		I		E		G		Y		L		R
S	I	N	G	E		W	H	I	T	E	R	O	S	E
C		A		G		L		M		R		O		A
O	N	T	H	E	N	A	I	L		T	O	P	I	C
V		A				I		E		R				H
E	N	R	A	G	E	D		T	A	U	G	H	T	
R		M		O						M		I		B
	U	S	A	B	L	E		C	A	P	I	T	A	L
H				E		L		A				O		U
U	P	S	E	T		D	I	S	C	H	A	R	G	E
M		E		W		E		C		I		M		B
B	A	T	T	E	R	S	E	A		F	R	I	Z	E
U		T		E		T		R		P		S		L
G	R	O	U	N	D		C	A	R	O	U	S	A	L

Solution to Eliminator Puzzle No 18,846

C	L	I	M	B	S		T	A	N	I	S	T	R	Y
O		S		L		H		L		A		A		A
L	O	O	S	E	L	E	A	F		M	E	L	O	N
O		L		A		C		R		B		E		K
P	L	A	C	K	E	T		E	S	S	E	N	C	E
H		T		N		O		D				T		D
O	B	E	S	E		R	O	S	E	B	U	S	H	
N				S		H		A		O				T
	N	U	M	S	K	U	L	L		A	C	C	R	A
C		N				S		T		N		L		B
A	Z	I	M	U	T	H		E	X	E	C	U	T	E
E		F		P		A		E		R		S		R
S	H	O	R	E		B	E	N	I	G	H	T	E	D
A		R		N		Y		A		E		E		A
R	E	M	E	D	I	E	D		U	S	U	R	E	R

The Eliminator crossword puzzle explained

● The Eliminator crossword puzzle, published on Thursday, February 20, was intentionally difficult as its purpose was to reduce the number of qualifiers for the Bristol and London Regional finals of *The Times* InterCity Crossword Championship to manageable proportions (John Grant, Crossword Editor, writes). About two thirds of the clues were of the same standard as the ordinary daily puzzle. The explanations of the remainder are as follows.

ACROSS

1 Tanistry, succession by Celtic chief's heir elect.

23 Bearing-azimuth: I in State (AZ, Arizona) Opening (MOUTH minus 0).

26 Shore, past tense of shear, archaic except in Australia and NZ.

DOWN

1 Colophon (O Ph in COLON) publisher's device on title page, such as Cassell's La Belle Sauvage.

3 'Dame Durden', John Jardyce's name for Esther Summerson, the housekeeper in *Bleak House*.

5 Alfred Salteena, Ethel's admirer in Daisy Ashford's *The Young Visiters*.

9 Hector Hushabye in Shaw's *Heartbreak House*.

16 Boanerges ("sons of thunder"), the name given to James and John, the sons of Zebedee, because they wanted to call down "fire from Heaven" to consume the Samaritans (Brewer).

17 Taberdar, a scholar of Queen's college, Oxford.

19 (T)UNI(s)FORM.

TELEPHONE TIMECHECK

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

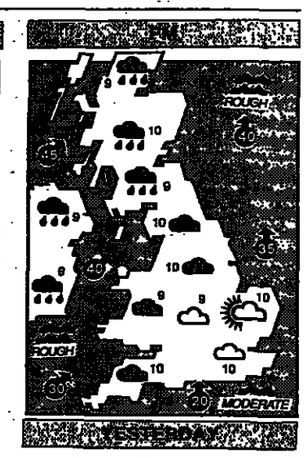
Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

A very windy day with gales affecting much of the western side of the country, and severe gales likely over exposed parts of northwest Scotland. Rain over Northern Ireland and western Scotland will spread into northern and southwest England, Wales and the rest of Scotland. Apart from occasional drizzle over hills and along the south coast the rest of England will remain dry and bright. Outlook: mild but unsettled with rain at times.

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
*Anglesey	8.5	-	10	50	sunny
Aviemore	5.0	-	9	48	shrwy
Belfast	0.1	0.06	10	50	rain
Birmingham	6.5	-	10	50	sunny
Bournemouth	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Bristol	2.5	-	9	48	fog
Cardiff	2.7	-	7	45	fog
Colwyn Bay	6.7	-	12	54	sunny
Exmouth	-	-	6	43	dull
Falmouth	5.6	-	8	46	sunny
Hastings	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Hunstanton	3.7	-	9	48	sunny
Jersey	0.1	-	10	50	cloudy
Littlehampton	-	-	7	45	fog
Liverpool	6.5	-	10	50	sunny
Lowestoft	-	-	6	43	fog
Newcastle	0.5	0.03	10	50	cloudy
Newquay	5.8	-	9	48	sunny
Nottingham	5.6	-	10	50	sunny
Penzance	4.5	-	10	50	sunny
Plymouth	1.7	-	7	45	cloudy
Southsea	-	-	6	43	fog
St. Ives	8.2	-	10	50	sunny
Teignmouth	-	-	7	45	fog
Tenby	2.5	-	7	45	cloudy
Torquay	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Worthing	0.2	-	7	45	cloudy

Tuesday's figures are latest available



London 5.38 pm to 6.50 am
Bristol 5.46 pm to 6.59 am
Edinburgh 5.41 pm to 7.09 am
Manchester 5.41 pm to 7.01 am
Penzance 6.00 pm to 7.09 am

Sun rises: 6.52 am — Sun sets: 5.36 pm
Moon rises: 3.47 am — Moon sets: 11.26 am
New moon March 4

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	8	46	s	Guernsey	10	50	f
B'mghm	11	52	c	Inverness	7	45	f
Blackpool	10	50	f	Jersey	10	50	s
Bristol	11	52	c	London	10	50	c
Cardiff	10	50	c	M'nchster	11	52	f
Edinburgh	9	48	f	Newcastle	11	52	f
Glasgow	8	46	f	R'nldsway	10	50	s

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

UGGLESOME
a. Fearful, horrible
b. More than half
c. Sexually desirable

FUSSOCK
a. A big, fat woman
b. A tuft of marsh reed
c. To undermine someone's digging

AULARIAN
a. Alarmist
b. Pertaining to a hall
c. Shrine for a household god

MERULATOR
a. A drunkard
b. A thrush-catcher
c. Gladiator with sword and shield

Answers on page 14

Concise crossword, page 21
Life & Times section

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.395	2.235
Austria Sch	21.25	19.75
Belgium Fr	62.10	58.10
Canada $	2.175	2.015
Denmark Kr	11.70	10.95
Finland Mkk	8.40	7.80
France Fr	10.24	9.54
Germany Dm	3.015	2.815
Greece Dr	353.00	328.00
Hong Kong $	14.10	13.10
Ireland Pt	1.129	1.058
Italy Lira	2270.00	2120.00
Japan Yen	243.50	224.50
Netherlands Gld	3.39	3.17
Norway Kr	11.96	11.06
Portugal Esc	258.50	240.50
South Africa Rd	5.40	4.80
Spain Pta	187.50	174.50
Sweden Kr	11.03	10.23
Switzerland Fr	2.735	2.565
Turkey Lira	10500.0	9500.0
USA $	1.825	1.705
Yugoslavia Dnr	DNB	DNB

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder, d=drizzle, fg=fog, s=sun: sl=sleet sn=snow, l=fair: c=cloud, r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	14	57	f	Malaga	18	64	s
Alex'dria	14	57	c	Malta	17	63	f
Amst'dm	8	46	c	Miami*	28	82	f
Athens	12	54	f	Milan	10	50	f
Barbados*	29	84	f	Moscow	0	32	c
Bermuda*	22	72	f	Nairobi	29	84	s
Biarritz	11	52	f	Naples	16	61	s
Borde'x	13	55	f	N York*	2	36	d
Brussels	9	48	f	Nice	14	57	s
B Aires*	25	77	s	Paris	11	52	s
Cairo	14	57	f	Peking	18	64	s
Ch'church	15	59	c	Rhodes	12	54	s
Cologne	10	50	c	Rome	15	59	f
C'phagn	3	37	c	Salzburg	9	48	s
Corfu	13	55	c	S F'risco*	16	61	s
Frankfurt	7	45	c	Sing'por	31	88	f
Funchal	17	63	f	Sydney	21	70	s
Hong K	20	68	s		15	59	f
Innsbrck	7	45	f	Tel Aviv	8	46	s
Jeddah	21	70	s	Tenerife	14	57	f
L Palmas	20	68	f	Tunis	17	63	c
Lisbon	9	48	fg	Venice	8	47	f
Locarno	11	52	s	Vienna	8	46	s
L Angels*	24	75	s	Warsaw	7	45	s
Luxor	17	63	s	Wash'ton*	5	41	d
Madrid	9	48	f	Wel'nton	17	63	f
Majorca	15	59	s	Zurich	8	46	c

* denotes figures are latest available

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE	
C London (within N & S Crcs)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

HIGH TIDES

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 12C (54F); min 6pm to 6am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6pm, 82 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Trawsgoed, Dyfed, 12C (54F). Lowest day max: Odiham, Hampshire, 2C (36F). Highest rainfall: Lerwick, Shetland, 0.16 in. Highest sunshine: St Ives, Cornwall, 8.2 hr.

CARDIFF

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 10C (50F); min 6pm to 6am, 5C (41F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.19 in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 4.9hr.

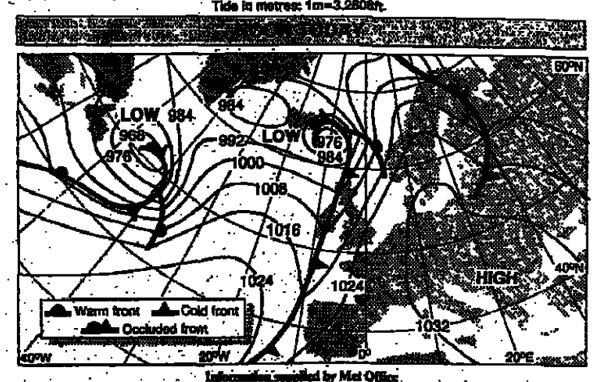
MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 13C (55F); min 6pm to 6am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 4.8 hr.

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8.20	5.8	8.47	5.6
Aberdeen	8.25	3.1	9.32	3.1
Avonmouth	1.00	9.3	1.46	9.1
Belfast	6.10	2.8	6.52	2.8
Cardiff	12.45	8.8	1.33	8.6
Devonport			12.19	4.1
Dover	5.53	5.0	6.45	4.9
Falmouth	11.49	3.9		
Glasgow	7.02	3.9	7.20	3.6
Harwich	6.24	3.0	6.58	2.9
Holyhead	5.28	4.2	6.38	4.1
Hull	12.42	5.6	1.10	5.6
Ilfracombe	12.15	6.5	1.02	6.3
King's Lynn	12.55	4.6	1.29	4.5
Leith	9.31	4.2	10.28	4.2

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	5.57	7.0	6.58	6.8
Lowestoft	4.37	2.0	4.54	2.0
Margate	6.45	3.8	7.16	3.7
Milford Haven	12.34	5.0	1.23	4.8
Newquay			12.23	4.9
Oban	12.43	2.8	2.44	2.5
Penzance	11.38	4.1		
Portland			12.49	1.1
Portsmouth	5.50	3.7	6.53	3.7
Shoreham	5.39	4.6	6.44	4.5
Southampton	5.47	3.5	6.57	3.5
Swansea	12.35	7.1	1.19	6.9
Tees	10.44	4.1	11.46	4.0
W'ton-on-Nze	6.24	3.2	7.02	3.1

Tide is metres: 1m=3.2808ft.



Information supplied by Met Office

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TODAY IN THE TIMES

CHEMICAL WAR

ICI remains on alert despite Lord Hanson's disavowel of intent to launch a bid. Today sees ICI's 1991 results, but how much of the recovery is down to Hanson
Page 21

ACCOUNTANCY

Accountancy Times asks whether companies should buy audit and management consultancy from the same firm
Page 25

DOG FIGHT

British Airways is suing Sabena, the Belgian airline, over the collapse of a proposed joint venture involving KLM
Page 19

TUC CUTS JOBS

TUC council members yesterday approved a plan to seek a 20 per cent cut in the organisation's workforce of 250
Page 19

PENSION CALL

Clive Gilchrist, of the National Association of Pension Funds, will today express public disappointment over post-Maxwell regulation
Page 19

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7450 (–0.0160)
German mark
2.8854 (+0.0067)
Exchange index
90.6 (–0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2002.9 (+13.1)
FT-SE 100
2565.0 (+18.2)
New York Dow Jones
3264.09 (+6.26)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
21364.77 (+339.22)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10½%
3-month Interbank 10 5/32-10 7/32%
3-month eligible bills: 9 13/16-9 29/32%
US: Prime Rate 6½%
Federal Funds 3⅞%*
3-month Treasury Bills 3.95-3.94%*
30-year bonds 100¾-100 23/32*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.7464	£: $1.7460*
£: DM2.8833	$: DM1.6527*
£: SwFr2.6169	$: SwFr1.4978*
£: FFr9.8119	$: FFr5.6160*
£: Yen226.33	$: Yen129.67*
£: Index:90.6	$: Index:64.4
ECU £0.708377	SDR £0.788714
£: ECU1.409687	£: SDR1.267886

London forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $348.80 pm-$348.65
close $349.00-349.50 (£199.50-200.00)
New York:
Comex $348.25-348.75*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar) ..... $17.30 bbl ($17.55)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 135.6 January (1987=100)
* Denotes midday trading price

Provisions surge to £1.76 billion

Barclays dives 30% because of bad debts

BY NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BARCLAYS has lost its position as Britain's most profitable bank. An unprecedented surge in bad-debt provisions sent profits down 30 per cent to £533 million last year.

Bad debts rose 40 per cent to £1.76 billion and profits would have fallen even further if the bank had not decided to release provisions of £211 million against its Third World debts. Barclays now has a £4.8 billion portfolio of non-performing loans.

Sir John Quinton, the chairman, said the results were disappointing, "but not entirely unsatisfactory when viewed against a background of record business failures and falling property values".

He said provisions would remain high for most of this year. "I hope to see the level of bad debts decline but I expect it to remain high. If the economy begins to pick up, I would expect to see the level decline. But the indications that it is reviving are only very slight."

Barclays has been overtaken in profitability by Lloyds, which reported a profit of £645 million last year. Sir John said: "We have not always been the most profitable bank but we will strive to become so again to give maximum value to our shareholders."

Despite the profit fall, the bank is holding its final dividend at 12p a share, making 21.15p for the year. This, however, drains £96 million from reserves, largely paid for by a preference share issue in America last year.

Sir John said unsound lending was partly to blame for the bad debts. "We are looking carefully at our risk management procedures." The economy, however, was largely to blame for the profit slump. "The majority of loans would have been made in normal times by good bankers but the sudden and severe recession took us by surprise."

Like other banks, Barclays is struggling to reduce costs. It shed 5,000 jobs during the year; 1,000 of the redundancies were voluntary. Sir John said 15,000 staff would go over five years.

Despite the cuts, Barclays' costs surged by 14 per cent to £4.29 billion. That dismayed the City, and the shares lost 18p to close at 376p.

Peter Wood, the finance director, said £90 million of the increased costs came from acquisitions in France and Germany in 1990. Costs had risen fastest in the bank's expanding businesses, including Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the investment bank, and the credit card operation. "We are trying to develop new sources of income, and in these one would expect costs to grow," he said.

A large part of the cost growth came from last year's 8 per cent pay settlement, which pushed costs in the retail bank up by 11 per cent.

This year, Barclays is offering a staff pay increase of 3 per cent.

Domestic bad debts rose from £794 million to £953 million. This depressed profits from the core bank by two-thirds to £119 million. By contrast, the financial services arm grew by 18 per cent to £214 million despite the depressed market for life assurance.

Barclays' business in America was also mauled by bad debts. These rose by 116 per cent to £339 million and plunged the subsidiary into a £217 million loss. Humphrey Norrington, the vice chairman, said Barclays it planned to cut back its lending in America.

The other bad loss was suffered by the Mercantile group, the bank's finance house arm, which slumped from a £2 million profit to a £126 million deficit. This incuded redundancy costs of £27 million.

The Central Retail Services division, which operates the bank's credit cards, returned to a profit of £46 million from a £4 million loss in 1990. This was mainly due to the introduction of an £8 annual fee on the Barclaycard, and occurred despite a £52 million rise in bad debts to £164 million.

In Europe, Barclays failed to capitalise on its expensive acquisitions of Europeene de Banque and Merck Finck in France and Germany. Profits in the EC fell by 39 per cent to £24 million due to the reorganisation of the new subsidiaries.

Comment, page 21

Bank chief excuses 'animal spirits'

BY OUR BANKING CORRESPONDENT

EDDIE George, deputy governor of the Bank of England, defended commercial banks against the twin charges of irresponsible lending during the Eighties and overcharging customers to try to recover some of the resulting losses. He admitted, however, that "animal spirits" gripped banks in the Eighties and encouraged aggressive marketing and lower credit standards.

Mr George was speaking at the opening of a TSB Bank training centre in Solihull, West Midlands. He said bank customers should expect increased charges as a result of recession; small ones would suffer most as banks phased out cross-subsidisation of services.

"No one should be surprised that, as risks rise in a recession, the banks should seek to widen their margins or limit their exposures," he said. "The banks will not be there in the long run if they are not able to earn an adequate return on capital."

Mr George hit back at much criticism levelled in recent months at commercial banks. His speech showed that the Bank of England favours the banks charging market rates for their services, and that while it is moderately critical of their former lending policies, it believes external pressures were largely to blame. Mr George said the roots of overlending in the Eighties lay partly in the banking deregulation of the past 20 years. That, he said, had squeezed banks' margins and encouraged them to increase lending volume to maintain profits.

He added that over-lending should have been contained through tighter monetary policy. "If we had been successful in keeping animal spirits on a shorter leash, the subsequent economic and social trauma would have been less."

Mr George warned customers of the perils of taking advantage of the free market in banking services.

"Customers have a perfect right to shop around for the finest available terms on each individual banking service," he said. "But if they opt for multi-banking when the weather is fine, they cannot expect relationship banking when the going gets tough."

He emphasised that smaller customers would be particularly hard hit by rises in bank charges. "The uncomfortable fact is that small transactions are relatively expensive to process," he said.

Mr George argued against government intervention in the banking market to limit interest charges or restrict borrowing. Such policies, he said, would distort the market and damage the wider economy.

TONY WHITE

Live wire: Sainsbury is to be the second big UK firm with a woman finance director. Rosemary Thorne, aged 40, joins the board next month and will succeed Derek Hanson as finance chief in June. Currently financial controller at Grand Metropolitan, she follows in the footsteps of Kathleen O'Donovan of BTR.

Institute sees few signs of economic recovery

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE economy is showing few signs of recovery and will grow by only 1.3 per cent in 1992, according to the National Institute of Economic and Social Research. But the Labour party's economic policies would improve Britain's growth rate by up to 0.5 per cent in each of the next two years, sharply increase real wages and cut unemployment by about 200,000. The main costs of Labour's programme would be seen in higher inflation and bigger trade deficits than under a Conservative government.

The institute's quarterly economic review presents several projections for Labour's programme as well as a central forecast assuming the present government is re-elected after a modest tax giveaway of £2 billion, worth 1p off income tax, in next month's Budget.

The main forecast, based on present policies, shows a resumption of modest economic growth from the current quarter onwards and a further reduction in inflation to 3.4 per cent by the end of 1992. Although GDP is forecast to grow by only 1.3 per cent on average in 1992, there should be significant acceleration through the year. By the fourth quarter, GDP should be 2.8 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Unemployment is expected to go on rising steadily to a peak of about 2.9 million in mid-1993. The PSBR would be £22.2 billion in 1992-3, assuming a tax cut worth £2 billion in the Budget. The current account deficit is forecast to widen to £9.6 billion in 1993, but the institute argues that this level of deficit should not cause problems for sterling in the ERM.

The Labour party's plan to introduce a national minimum wage would also stimulate the economy, at least in the short term, and would actually reduce the PSBR slightly because of the additional tax revenues generated through higher growth.

The main reason for the extra economic growth would be the higher pay demands. By early 1994, average earnings would rise by up to 4.6 per cent in response to Labour's extra taxes and by a further 2.2 per cent as a result of the minimum wage.

Britain would suffer a significant loss of competitiveness and the current account deficit would rise by about £2.4 billion as a result of the two Labour policies combined.

☐ Construction orders in the fourth quarter of 1991 were 1 per cent higher than in the third quarter and 2 per cent up on a year earlier. But private housing orders fell 13 per cent on the previous quarter and were 3 per cent lower than the year before.

Comment, page 21
German comparison, page 21

Ex-chief fears for Lloyd's

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

IAN Hay Davison, the chief executive of Lloyd's between 1983 and 1986, has said that the market "may not survive the end of the century" unless radical reform is carried out over the next few years.

In a letter published in *The Times* today, Mr Hay Davison, who was responsible for introducing a swathe of reform during his period in office, advocates "a clear separation of the regulatory and commercial functions of the Society" as proposed in the recent Rowland task force report on Lloyd's.

The interests of those who work in the market "are at all times secondary" to those of the policyholders and the names," he says.

Other changes recommended include a resolution of the open years problem through arbitration. Mr Hay Davison, an accountant, left Lloyd's in 1986, amid disagreements over his role.

Letters, page 13

CU goes £68m into red

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

COMMERCIAL Union last year registered its first loss since 1985, converting a tiny £1.4 million 1990 profit into a £68.6 million pre-tax loss for 1991. But the composite insurance group has raised its final dividend, confounding City fears that the rise in the interim dividend would not be repeated. The year's dividend rises 2.8 per cent to 23.65p per share.

Tony Brend, the chief executive, said the dividend rise reflected the group's financial strength and recovery prospects, and that CU's policy was to try to maintain the real value of dividends. He said premium rate increases were gaining momentum in Britain, the worst territory for losses, although the full benefit would not be felt until 1993.

"We could write an awful lot of business if we were so minded, because premium rate rises make people think they might change their insurance company," he said. "But we are being very selective."

CU's life assurance business, centred in Britain and The Netherlands, increased profits from £102 million to £114 million but this was swamped by non-life losses of £183 million, of which £85 million were on business written in Britain.

Worldwide underwriting losses increased from £345 million to £463 million, including a rise from £145 million to £227 million in Britain. Investment income rose 11 per cent to £272 million, net of interest.

Peter Ward, managing director of UK operations, said CU was not emphasising market share, but had not lost an abnormal amount of business because other companies were also raising premium rates. CU had gained motor business, where smaller losses had enabled it to raise premiums by less than some big competitors.

A further rise in motor premiums is likely in May, and rates will continue to rise faster than inflation to account for higher repair costs and more claims.

Stamford Bridge transfer listed at £23m

BY MATTHEW BOND

Duggan: right result

KEN Bates's ten-year battle to keep Chelsea Football Club at Stamford Bridge, its west London ground, suffered a setback in the High Court yesterday, when Mr Justice Millett ordered that the club would have to pay Cabra Estates, its landlord, £22.85 million if it wanted to stay and own the ground.

The judge granted SB Properties, the Cabra subsidiary that owns the freehold to Stamford Bridge, a court order requiring Chelsea to pay the valuation determined last November by an independent property expert.

Cabra shares celebrated by rising 14p to 84p, but John Duggan, Cabra's chairman, decided to forgo the lap of honour that normally accompany such footballing successes. He said only: "Obviously this is the right decision from our point of view in every way." He then retreated to his dressing room to consider the postponed interim results that Cabra will publish today.

Advisers close to Mr Bates, the Chelsea chairman, refused to see the ruling as a straightforward away win for Cabra. It was, they thought, rather more of a score draw, with honours evenly divided. They pointed out that Justice Millett had allowed Chelsea's counter claim against SB Properties to proceed.

But while the court ruled that SB was in breach of its option contract with Chelsea, the judge said Chelsea was not entitled to pursue a claim for damages that reflected the fall in property values between 1988 — when Chelsea could have exercised the option to buy Stamford Bridge — and 1991, when Cabra finally conceded that the option was valid. Nor was Chelsea entitled to damages for delay in the redevelopment of Stamford Bridge. Denton Hall, Chelsea's lawyer, indicated it was likely to appeal against the damages' ruling.

The judge did not specify a date by which Chelsea should pay the money to Cabra, suggesting the two parties should settle that themselves. Given that Chelsea and Cabra have failed to agree on anything in the last three years, it cannot be long before Cabra takes up the judge's offer to fix the date. If Chelsea then fails to come up with the money, Cabra can begin eviction proceedings.

Mr Bates said his fight to keep Chelsea at Stamford Bridge would continue. "We have never denied the £22.85 million purchase figure but feel there should be a net settlement after the deduction of damages we have suffered. We are considering an appeal and will go all the way to the House of Lords if necessary unless Mr Duggan comes to the negotiating table."

The court ruling comes at a time when property market sources were suggesting that Mr Bates was close to securing bank finance that would enable him to make Cabra a serious offer. But any offer is likely to be well below the £22.85 million valuation. Accepting anything less than the independent valuation could be impossible for Mr Duggan, given his duty to his shareholders. In 1989, when Mr Duggan's Conrad Holdings took over Marler Estates, Smith New Court placed shares with institutions at 110p. Institutions still on the Cabra share register will be sitting on huge losses and will wish to see the best possible price for Stamford Bridge.

Disposals at Evered Bardon raise £30m

By Matthew Bond

EVERED Bardon, the aggregates and quarrying group created by the merger of Evered and Bardon Group 13 months ago, has disposed of two non-core businesses for £30 million.

With three American businesses also being prepared for sale, the two British disposals mark the beginning of a determined push by Peter Tom, chief executive, to reduce the group's borrowings.

At last September's interims, Evered Bardon had net debt of about £300 million, giving a gearing level of about 75 per cent. Yesterday's disposals took the total raised by sales to £34 million.

The bigger of the two businesses sold yesterday was the slag cement business of Civil and Marine, a company that the pre-merger Evered paid £110 million for two years ago.

The slag cement business has been bought for £25 million by a specially created consortium led by 3i and backed by funds managed by CIN Venture Managers. The consortium is also backed by a family trust linked to Mike Uren, one of the founders of Civil and Marine and a director on the Evered Bardon board. Mr Uren's involvement means that the disposal will require shareholder approval. He will remain a full-time executive director of Evered Bardon.

Evered Bardon also sold *Daniel Platt*, a manufacturer of clay floor and roof tiles, for £5 million.

National & Provincial soars despite bad debt

By Lindsay Cook
Money Editor

THE National & Provincial Building Society has reported a £40 million increase in pretax profits to £100.4 million for last year, despite bad debt provisions of £52 million.

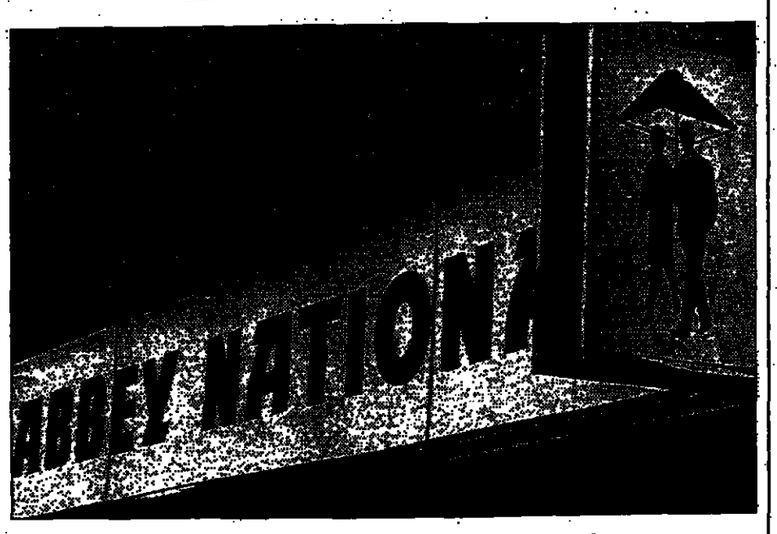
The eighth-largest society made £24.7 million of provisions for mortgage arrears — a fourfold increase on 1990. And it allowed £24.6 million for losses on self-build schemes. These cost £37.2 million the previous year, when they were hit by rising interest rates which meant that the size of the loans outstripped the value of the sites, and half-completed properties had to be abandoned.

Commercial provisions more than doubled to £2.8 million.

The National & Provincial, which had suffered two difficult years culminating in the loss of Ben Thompson-McCausland, its previous chief executive, increased its mortgage business by 136 per cent to £1.33 billion last year. Its cost-income ratio was cut from 54 per cent to 46.6 per cent.

Richard Newton, chairman of the society, said: "Against the sombre background of the most difficult general housing market since the Second World War, the society has some cause for satisfaction with its financial results."

He added: "It has moved forward, through strong and highly committed management, to a position where it is ready to optimise new opportunities open to it."



Abbey details rescue scheme for borrowers in arrears

By Our Money Editor

ABBEY National has announced details of its £60 million mortgage-to-rent scheme designed to help borrowers in difficulty with their payments.

The scheme will allow employed borrowers six months or more in arrears to sell their homes to the Homesave Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Abbey National, and become shorthold tenants.

A special task force within the former building society has been drawing up a list of customers whom it believes may be helped by the scheme. Branch managers will soon contact those who qualify to give them details of the scheme.

Property prices will be based on an independent open-market valuation, and the rent will be set at a market rate.

The initial tenancy will be for six months and a day and should be extended if the tenancy is operating properly. Tenants whose situation improves will be able to buy back their homes at an independent valuation.

John Fry, group services director, said the scheme aimed to help as many families as possible stay in their own homes. The mortgage-to-rent scheme is just one of a number of options open to all our mortgage customers who are facing serious arrears.

However, those who are not eligible should continue to talk to their branch or mortgage centre manager for advice and help, he said.

Pay for travel directors rises 7%

By Harvey Elliott
Travel Correspondent

DESPITE an 11.5 per cent drop in average profits, directors in the travel and leisure industries awarded themselves pay rises of 7.4 per cent last year.

According to a survey by Argyle Executive Recruitment, directors of 52 travel-related companies were paid an average of £134,050 last year while staff received £12,966, including pensions and national insurance contributions, an increase of 8.2 per cent on the previous year.

Chairmen's pay in the industry, which is now the biggest single industry in Britain, went up by 10.2 per cent, or £21,000 a year.

Five companies reduced their average salary costs, but one had an overall increase of more than 40 per cent.

Kristina Wallen, director of Argyle Executive Recruitment, said that there was no sign that the salary levels were slowing down. "Much of the business is heading for a fast upturn, and that will almost certainly sweep salary levels upward with it," she said.

The 52 companies that were used in the sample employ 1,065,678 people, an increase of 3.5 per cent on 1990. Of the 52 companies, 38 increased their staff numbers while 14 reduced them.

Aggregate staff costs went up by £1.06 billion to £12.87 billion, an increase of 9 per cent. Profitability per staff member fell by 13.4 per cent to £5,924.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Management bids for Continuous

SHARES in Continuous Stationery jumped 9p to 32p after the group received a bid from some of the group's management. The proposed offer of "around 40p per share in cash" would value the company at about £6.7 million and is still subject to financing. This attempt to take the company private has been made by Derek Mottershead and Ed Carson, the group's joint managing directors with responsibility for Prontaprint and the business forms divisions respectively.

Bill Eastwood, the non-executive chairman who is part of the independent directors' team, said: "We had an approach sometime ago which never came to anything. Our current position is that we have not seen the terms yet, so we have not formed a genuine view. When we get an offer we will take advice and decide from there."

Record Holdings falls

RECORD Holdings, a Sheffield tool maker, suffered a 29.3 per cent fall in pre-tax profit to £3.35 million in the year to December 31, in "dreadful market conditions". Ending of some activities cut turnover by 25.4 per cent to £26 million. Interest costs came down from £710,000 to £196,000 and net cash at the year-end stood at £2.5 million, thanks to a £5.8 million rights issue last October. Earnings per share slid from 10.7p to 6.9p, but the final dividend is maintained at 2.45p, making an unchanged total of 3.6p.

Multitrust in profit

MULTITRUST is paying an interim dividend of 1.5p (nil) after the investment trust earned a pre-tax revenue of £83,944 in the six months to end-December, against a loss of £21,014 last time. Total revenue rose to £132,968 (£75,275). The board intends to pay a further dividend of 1p for the year, which would make 2.5p — a 25 per cent increase on last year's total dividend. Earnings per share were 1.45p (loss of 0.53p). The net asset value per share fell from 41.92p to 35.64p in the six months.

Ryan cuts payout

RYAN Hotels, the Irish property group that reported an interim loss of Ir£509,000 last July, returned to the black in the second half, enabling the company to report a pre-tax profit of Ir£975,085 (£902,000) for the year to end-October. Despite the improvement, the full-year profits are still 65 per cent below the level of the year before, prompting the board to cut the final dividend from Ir1.25p to Ir0.5p, making a total of Ir1p (Ir1.75p). Trading profits fell Ir£542,000, while interest costs rose Ir£852,000.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL. 0345 717373				
Mastertrust	90.17	96.43	...	2.47
International	63.80	67.87	+ 0.10	1.21
Dividend Gth	47.61	50.64†	− 0.22	5.92
Global Gth Sec	53.55	56.96	+ 0.02	2.74
Ethical Growth	55.15	58.66	− 0.07	2.90
High Inc Equity	128.00	136.10†	− 0.40	6.25
Worldwide Bond	218.70	231.90†	+ 0.60	6.14
Gilts Fixed Int	120.10	127.30	+ 0.20	8.13
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. 0224 633070. Dealing: 0800 833580 30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ. 071 374 6801				
Amer Inc Gth	31.75	33.61	− 0.01	2.36
European	70.97	75.25†	− 0.05	0.31
European Inc	72.01	75.97†	− 0.23	1.61
Exempt	807.40	835.70†	− 1.90	4.88
Extra Inc	36.44	39.60	− 0.07	6.25
F East Emerg Ec	55.19	59.15	+ 0.36	1.08
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL. 0793 514514. Dealing: 0793 610366				
High Inc	326.60	347.80	+ 1.60	5.66
Equity Inc	183.30	195.20†	+ 1.00	5.33
High Yield	199.20	212.10	+ 1.00	5.45
Balanced	555.70	591.80	+ 2.30	3.42
American Inc	35.33	37.62†	+ 0.33	4.04
Wld Asset Val	31.49	33.53	+ 0.21	1.37
Japan	127.70	135.10†	+ 1.40	0.01
Secs of Am	348.70	369.90	+ 5.70	0.01
BL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD PO Box 128, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4PN. 081 663 3030				
European Gth	85.26	91.17	− 0.67	1.60
1992 Euro Sp Op	62.99	67.36	− 0.58	0.85
International Inc	69.08	73.48	+ 0.06	6.62
N American Gth	56.07	59.96	− 0.24	0.59
Pacific Growth	69.72	74.55	+ 0.12	1.07
UK Growth Acc	80.76	86.36	− 0.18	2.09
UK Growth Dist	70.87	75.78	− 0.15	2.39
UK Income	57.58	61.57	− 0.42	5.07
BARCLAYS UNICORN Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544				
Capital	91.35	97.96†	− 0.36	1.59
Euro Gth Inc	99.81	105.80	− 0.30	1.68
Extra Inc	91.97	98.36	− 0.32	6.85
General	202.70	216.80	− 0.60	4.12
Gilt Fxd Inc	53.55	55.46†	+ 0.10	10.06
Income	404.90	433.10†	− 1.30	6.29
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ. 081 658 9002				
American Gth	73.08	77.38†	+ 0.15	0.30
Amer Smllr Cos	87.56	93.23	− 0.02	...
Australia	62.56	67.21	− 0.20	2.10
Convertibles	46.32	49.53	− 0.05	8.30
Eastern	144.20	154.90	+ 0.10	1.80
Equity Income	66.53	70.77	− 0.29	7.40
European Gth	190.90	202.50	− 0.20	2.20
Euro Smllr Cos	148.40	158.00	+ 0.60	1.40
Exempt	69.37	71.58†	+ 0.41	4.00
German Growth	49.29	52.48	+ 0.54	1.10
Global Growth	87.56	93.52	+ 0.17	1.50
Japan Growth	139.80	149.40	+ 2.40	...
Japan Sunrise	117.40	125.30	+ 1.00	...
Portfolio	99.35	103.40†	+ 0.10	3.60
-do- Acc	171.40	178.50	+ 0.20	3.60
UK Growth	57.36	61.02	+ 0.10	4.20
UK Smaller Cos	69.94	74.80	− 0.25	2.20
Select Managers	54.39	57.86	+ 0.03	2.30
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD 190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA. 041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	85.52	91.46	+ 0.16	3.00
-do- Inc	79.85	85.40	+ 0.15	3.00
Global Bond	23.72	25.37	+ 0.03	4.34
High Yield Acc	41.19	44.05	− 0.06	5.19
-do- Inc	31.59	33.78	− 0.05	5.19
Income Gth Acc	57.59	61.59	− 0.18	5.71
-do- Inc	39.99	42.77	− 0.12	5.71
Service Op Acc	69.93	74.79	+ 0.30	2.26
-do- Inc	65.85	70.43	+ 0.29	2.26
Amer Gth Acc	42.06	44.98	− 0.02	0.63
-do- Inc	41.23	44.10†	− 0.02	0.63
Euro Gth Acc	26.43	28.27	− 0.08	1.74
-do- Inc	25.71	27.50	− 0.08	1.74
Mngd P folio	27.01	28.89	+ 0.01	0.22
BROWN SHIPLEY 9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath. 0444 458144				
Financial	91.76	97.72†	− 0.21	4.84
Smaller Cos Acc	196.30	209.00	+ 0.10	...
Smaller Cos Inc	116.60	124.20	...	1.85
High Inc	57.03	61.02	+ 0.05	7.17
Income	93.94	100.30	...	5.41
Mngd P folio Inc	77.99	83.06†	− 0.27	2.50
-do- Acc	144.80	154.20	− 0.50	...
North American	88.07	94.24	− 0.66	0.23
Orient	86.39	92.99	+ 0.36	...
Recovery	29.64	31.57	+ 0.01	3.74
German	36.78	39.40	+ 0.13	0.10
Intl Recov	29.79	31.73	+ 0.02	0.25
European Inc	20.90	22.31	− 0.08	0.50
Conv General	16.67	17.75	+ 0.02	10.72
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542. Dealing 071 247 7474				
Fellowship Tst	50.48	53.51	− 0.25	2.94
-do- Acc	55.08	58.38	− 0.28	2.94
Income Fund 5	167.30	178.00	− 0.50	5.60
-do- Acc	362.10	385.30	−1.	5.60
Inv Portfolio	55.23	57.23	− 0.12	2.83
-do- Acc	60.99	63.12	− 0.13	2.83
Smaller Cos	102.10	108.70	− 0.10	3.27
-do- Acc	119.00	126.70	− 0.10	3.27
High Inc P folio	47.52	49.24	− 0.07	5.87
BURRAGE UT MANAGEMENT LTD 117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL. 071 480 7216				
Sht Gilt Fxd Int	64.95	65.83	− 0.08	6.30
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH. 061 837 5060				
Environ	109.60	116.70	− 0.20	2.11
UK Growth	119.90	127.60†	− 0.30	2.65
UK Income	103.40	110.10	− 0.30	5.73
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876				
SE Asia	58.03	62.06	+ 0.04	1.47
Growth	39.56	42.31†	− 0.16	3.64
Income	45.03	48.16†	− 0.09	6.06
Far East	37.16	39.74	+ 0.23	0.78
North American	64.28	69.12	+ 0.19	0.01
Global	66.14	70.74	+ 0.08	0.99
European	57.70	61.71	− 0.36	1.25
Japan	83.76	89.58	+ 0.65	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	47.94	50.82	+ 0.10	7.43
UK Cap Gwth	64.05	68.50	+ 0.21	2.02
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF. Enquiries: 061 236 5685. Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	100.20	106.60	...	0.39
-do- Acc	106.50	113.30	...	0.39
European	60.32	63.97	...	1.33
-do- Acc	62.10	65.86	...	1.33
Far East Gen	45.24	48.13	+ 0.41	...
-do- Acc	45.24	48.13	+ 0.41	...
Glendevon	217.90	231.90†	− 0.24	2.26
-do- Acc	243.30	258.90	− 0.30	2.26
Growth	316.50	338.60†	− 0.60	2.41
-do- Acc	528.10	564.90	− 1.20	2.41
Income Growth	313.40	333.50†	− 0.10	5.42
-do- Acc	398.60	424.10	− 0.10	5.42
Master Portfolio	8488.0	8907.0†	−11.00	2.68
-do- Acc	9546.0	10018.0	−12.00	2.68
Special Sits	71.65	76.23†	− 0.21	2.54
-do- Acc	81.94	87.18	− 0.21	2.54
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1002.0	1033.0	...	5.90
-do- Acc	1108.0	1143.0	− 1.00	5.90
CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 Harbour Exchange Square, London E14 9GL. 071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055				
American Index	154.30	163.80†	− 0.30	1.94
Capital	455.30	485.90	− 1.10	3.87
European Index	114.30	121.30†	− 0.20	1.77
Euro Gth	75.39	80.26	− 0.27	1.85
Far East Growth	66.18	70.62	+ 0.17	0.94
Global Bond	20.30	21.38†	+ 0.07	6.43
Hong Kong	46.53	49.65	+ 0.41	2.29
Income	424.30	452.80	− 0.20	5.79
Intl Growth	62.14	66.20	+ 0.30	1.34
Japan Growth	187.90	200.50	+ 3.20	...
Japan Smllr Cos	27.05	28.86†	+ 0.56	...
Japan Index	55.48	59.21†	+ 0.71	0.38
Nth American	329.90	352.00	+ 0.60	1.55
S pore Mly Gth	35.79	38.19	− 0.15	...
Tiger Index	102.70	109.60	...	1.10
Trade Index	89.48	95.49†	− 0.11	4.56
UK Index	107.10	114.30†	− 0.20	4.15
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 16 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN. 071 606 0708				
American P folio	61.36	65.63	− 0.31	1.65
European P folio	63.99	68.25	+ 0.07	1.16
Japanese P folio	41.87	44.52	− 0.21	...
Pacific P folio	70.80	76.13	− 0.09	2.63
Cazenove P folio	57.95	61.98	− 0.20	3.42
UK Income Gth	54.89	59.03	− 0.12	6.41
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	530.90	532.20	...	5.43
Fixed Int	143.10	143.80	...	10.08
Deposit	10.40	...	10.81	...
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Income	515.47	519.51	...	5.70
-do- Acc	1874.9	1912.6	...	...
Deposit	10.40	...	10.81	...
Fxd Int Inc	116.35	116.58	...	9.95
-do- Acc	137.20	137.47	...	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1. 071 407 5966				
City Fin Amer	53.58	56.40	+ 0.87	2.76
Beckman Intl	64.37	66.25	+ 0.17	5.17
Friars Hse Inc	160.40	170.00	+ 1.40	5.03
Friars Hse Cap	206.10	218.40†	+ 2.60	2.80
COMMERCIAL UT MANAGERS St Helens, 1 Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222. Dealing: 081 686 9818				
American Gth	84.87	90.29	− 0.29	0.31
European Gth	78.63	83.65	− 0.44	1.24
Far East Gth	73.56	78.26	+ 0.41	0.41
Japan Gth Acc	31.87	33.90	+ 0.46	...
Managed	53.21	56.61	− 0.40	3.74
-do- Acc	62.24	66.21	− 0.47	3.74
Mthly Inc Plus	41.03	43.65	+ 0.04	9.04
Smaller Cos	27.81	29.59†	+ 0.06	2.67
-do- Acc	30.59	32.54	+ 0.07	2.67
UK General	60.20	64.04	− 0.07	3.15
-do- Acc	70.18	74.66	− 0.09	3.15
Wwide Bd	51.38	54.66	+ 0.21	4.79
-do- Acc	61.50	65.43	+ 0.24	4.79
Wwide Sp Sits	44.70	47.81†	...	0.37
-do- Acc	46.38	49.60	...	0.37
Quilter General	105.90	112.23	− 0.41	3.11
-do- Acc	113.37	120.61	− 0.45	3.11
Quilter Income	79.02	84.08†	− 0.34	4.99
-do- Acc	92.31	98.20	− 0.40	4.99
Quilter Intl	103.54	110.15	− 0.19	...
-do- Acc	104.49	111.16	− 0.19	...
Quilter UK Spec	66.78	71.04	− 0.31	4.54
-do- Acc	86.20	91.70	− 0.39	4.54
CU Prestige Fund Management				
Fin Property	79.62	84.70	− 0.47	4.04
Fixed Conv	34.17	36.35†	+ 0.09	9.05
-do- Acc	83.65	88.99	+ 0.21	9.05
Equity Inc	122.82	130.66†	− 0.07	5.24
-do- Acc	371.27	394.97	− 0.22	5.24
High Yield	99.29	105.63	+ 0.21	6.87
-do- Acc	350.62	373.00	+ 0.74	6.87
Preference	39.58	42.11†	+ 0.16	9.47
-do- Acc	186.37	198.27	+ 0.73	9.47
PPT Europe	131.13	139.50	− 0.66	1.10
PPT Global Bnd	64.16	68.26	+ 0.05	4.60
PPT Gold Com	43.87	46.67	− 0.04	...
PPT Thai	40.35	42.93	+ 0.14	0.96
PPT Hong Kong	61.05	64.95	+ 0.61	1.72
PPT Japan	90.39	96.16	+ 0.47	...
PPT N Amer	118.14	125.68	− 0.06	...
PPT S'pore Mly	75.11	79.90	− 0.40	...
PPT UK	101.17	107.63	+ 0.06	2.94
PPT Cash	85.59	85.59	+ 0.02	9.93
EFM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh. 0345 090 526				
American	88.78	94.33	− 0.51	...
Capital	137.50	146.10	− 0.10	1.71
Convertibles	21.80	23.16	+ 0.03	8.64
Eurofund	34.67	36.68†	− 0.02	1.09
Mngd Exempt	146.70	152.90	+ 1.50	3.43
Growth Inc	192.10	204.10†	− 0.50	5.76
High Dist	133.90	142.30	− 0.30	8.08
International	272.00	289.00	+ 0.30	1.73
Intl Income	63.29	67.50†	+ 0.05	5.33
Pacific	39.61	42.09	+ 0.26	0.95
Smllr Jap Cos	56.43	59.88†	+ 0.50	...
Tokyo	153.10	162.60	+ 2.00	...
Japan Exempt	100.50	103.30	+ 1.90	0.48
Sm Jap Exempt	468.60	481.50	− 3.60	0.10
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	62.67	66.67	+ 0.13	1.27
Japanese Acc	46.95	49.95	+ 0.33	...
UK Balncd Inc	107.60	114.50	− 0.50	3.23
-do- Acc	123.00	130.80	− 0.60	3.23
UK Growth Acc	179.20	190.60	− 0.80	2.75
UK High Inc	111.30	118.40	− 0.70	8.20
-do- Acc	123.60	131.50	− 0.70	8.20
N America Acc	84.91	90.33	− 0.65	0.11
European Acc	116.30	123.70	− 0.60	1.29
UK Pref F/I Inc	56.63	60.07	+ 0.09	8.92
-do- Acc	84.64	89.78	+ 0.14	8.92
Intl Sp Sits Acc	42.31	45.01	− 0.60	0.84
Environmtl Opp	61.80	65.75	− 0.22	2.21
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7281				
Endurance	143.50	154.70	...	1.96
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW. 0296 431480				
Pelican	97.14	102.25	+ 0.55	5.22
High Income	98.94	104.15	+ 0.41	6.73
Tst of Inv Tsts	109.09	114.83†	+ 0.19	3.22
Special Sits	87.41	92.01	+ 0.15	4.00
North American	85.56	90.06	+ 0.69	0.81
Far Eastern	169.70	178.63	+ 1.28	1.29
Intl Growth	73.50	77.37	+ 0.58	2.09
European	58.75	61.84	− 0.12	1.79
Smaller Cos	58.15	61.21	+ 0.01	3.23
EQUITY & LAW St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD. 0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	263.10	279.90	− 0.70	4.00
-do- Inc	195.00	207.50	− 0.50	4.00
Higher Inc Acc	437.00	464.90	− 1.00	5.87
-do- Inc	282.80	300.90	− 0.60	5.87
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	147.80	155.60	+ 0.40	8.35
-do- Inc	85.07	89.55	+ 0.14	8.35
Nth America	205.90	219.10	− 0.10	...
Far East	218.60	232.60	+ 1.90	0.43
Europe	203.70	216.80	+ 0.30	0.41
General Inc	361.60	384.70	− 0.80	3.90
-do- Acc	381.50	405.90	− 0.70	3.90
Brit Excell	53.79	57.23	− 0.19	4.01
Brit Fndatn Inc	54.80	58.30	− 0.10	6.45
Brit Fndatn Acc	66.26	70.49	− 0.11	6.45
Global Opps	59.02	62.79	+ 0.05	0.13
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181				
America	175.70	185.50	+ 0.30	...
Cash Unit Tst	136.89	136.89†	+ 0.03	10.26
European Inc	97.83	104.40	− 0.20	...
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	82.60	87.50†	− 0.01	1.90
Far Eastern	106.70	113.90	+ 0.50	...
Ocean Income	74.36	79.53	+ 0.32	3.02
UK Growth	68.90	73.69†	− 0.04	1.86
UK Income	86.30	92.30	− 0.40	6.37
US Smaller Cos	154.60	165.30	− 0.50	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Co	348.50	376.50	− 4.00	...
-do- Acc	356.00	384.60	− 4.10	...
Capital	253.50	269.60	+ 0.20	3.21
-do- Acc	341.00	362.70	+ 0.30	3.21
Contl Smllr Cos	41.64	44.43	− 0.03	0.06
-do- Acc	42.34	45.18	− 0.02	0.06
Convertible	101.90	107.90	− 0.20	7.68
-do- Acc	178.30	188.90	− 0.30	7.68
European	89.58	95.54	− 0.21	0.63
-do- Acc	92.02	98.14	− 0.23	0.63
Extra Income	239.30	254.50†	− 0.20	5.80
-do- Acc	321.20	341.60†	− 0.20	5.80
Financial	68.07	72.40	− 0.08	0.82
-do- Acc	70.43	74.91	− 0.09	0.82
Health Fund Inc	112.70	121.90	− 1.00	...
-do- Acc	112.70	121.90	− 1.00	...
Income Tst	154.50	164.30	− 0.10	5.35
-do- Acc	204.50	217.50	− 0.10	5.35
Intl Growth	270.10	288.40	− 0.80	...
-do- Acc	299.90	320.30	− 0.80	...
Japan Gen	125.90	134.90†	+ 1.00	...
-do- Acc	127.20	136.30†	+ 1.10	...
Mngd P folio Inc	78.08	82.18	− 0.02	2.04
-do- Acc	78.75	82.89	− 0.01	2.04
Monthly Income	123.80	131.60	− 0.30	5.63
Recovery	222.40	240.20†	− 0.10	0.81
-do- Acc	258.20	278.90†	− 0.10	0.81
Smaller Cos	36.57	38.90	+ 0.05	3.48
-do- Acc	40.47	43.04	+ 0.04	3.48
Gilt Gth Inc	64.94	66.97	+ 0.19	4.87
-do- Acc	70.54	72.74	+ 0.21	4.87
Gilt Inc Inc	60.13	62.00	+ 0.17	8.25
-do- Acc	70.75	72.95	+ 0.20	8.25
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 411411. Admin: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	287.17	305.50	− 0.63	3.43
-do- Acc	563.63	599.61	− 1.24	3.43
Euro Gth Dist	93.77	99.76†	− 0.58	0.76
-do- Acc	95.58	101.68†	− 0.60	0.76
Fixed Int Dist	121.11	128.10	+ 0.06	7.87
-do- Acc	191.99	203.08	+ 0.09	7.87
Intl Gth Dist	62.44	66.43	− 0.01	0.60
-do- Acc	64.20	68.30	− 0.01	0.60
Nth Amer Dist	146.67	156.03†	− 0.15	0.80
-do- Acc	157.27	167.31†	− 0.17	0.80
Pac Basin Dist	180.49	192.01†	+ 1.16	0.25
-do- Acc	182.74	194.40†	+ 1.16	0.25
Stewardship Dist	250.82	266.83	− 0.41	2.76
-do- Acc	289.94	308.45	− 0.48	2.76
Stwd Inc Dist	51.89	55.20†	− 0.09	5.27
-do- Acc	61.53	65.46†	− 0.11	5.27
N Am Stwd Dist	74.59	79.35†	− 0.34	0.16
-do- Acc	78.87	83.90†	− 0.35	0.16
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 283 2575. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	108.60	116.20	− 0.90	...
UK Capital Inc	135.20	144.60†	− 0.20	4.40
-do- Acc	224.30	239.90	− 0.30	4.41
UK Spec Sits	54.44	58.23	− 0.02	1.96
Income	97.44	104.20	− 0.20	7.85
International	190.40	203.00	+ 0.10	1.24
US General	73.68	78.49	− 0.44	0.58
Japan General	317.30	338.70	+ 3.80	...
Far East General	176.60	188.90	+ 0.50	0.34
European	329.40	351.40	− 0.50	1.10
Germany	87.88	93.44	+ 0.34	0.42
Intl Income	58.40	61.97	− 0.03	5.78
W wide Spec Sits	97.14	103.90	+ 0.30	0.11
Global Assets In	50.23	53.73	− 0.01	2.80
Global Assets Ac	51.89	55.50	− 0.01	2.80
Smllr Cos Div	42.69	45.66	− 0.04	6.18
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	35.62	38.10†	− 0.27	2.73
Cash Trust*	119.70	119.70	+ 0.03	10.33
Prac Inv Inc	88.06	94.43	+ 0.03	4.10
-do- Acc	181.28	194.40	+ 0.06	4.10
UK Smaller Cos	98.79	105.94	+ 0.03	1.77
Income Funds				
Preference Share	21.51	23.01†	+ 0.10	11.17
High Inc	27.99	29.94†	− 0.18	6.98
Income	99.26	106.16†	− 0.81	4.30
Intl Pfd Int	24.34	25.63	+ 0.06	6.55
International Funds				
Gold Intl	61.31	65.75	+ 0.11	0.38
Euroventures	17.53	18.71	− 0.03	0.27
Frontier Markets	36.09	38.70	− 0.20	0.54
Global Inc Gth	96.47	103.07	− 0.07	3.43
UK Intl	90.81	97.12	− 0.28	2.01
Overseas Funds				
American	96.40	102.84	− 0.19	1.03
European	66.28	70.32†	− 0.11	1.02
Euro Sel Opps	81.35	86.53†	+ 0.01	1.36
American Emerg	49.88	53.49	+ 0.07	...
Hong Kong	65.12	69.83†	+ 0.67	1.59
Japan	143.61	152.87	+ 1.21	...
Pacific Growth	97.85	104.93	+ 0.30	0.89
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 0526				
Intl Growth	103.62	110.82	− 0.09	0.32
American Gth	96.05	102.72	− 0.73	0.14
European Gth	59.98	64.04	− 0.23	0.79
German Hrzn	43.25	46.18	− 0.05	0.47
Japan Gth	57.88	61.90	+ 0.27	...
Pacific Inc	100.39	107.36	+ 0.82	2.59
Pacific Strategy	69.49	74.32	+ 0.19	0.48
UK Prog Inc	64.27	68.73	− 0.18	7.78
Gt Britain Cos	43.60	46.63	− 0.23	2.68
UK Small Cos	37.70	40.32	− 1.09	2.54

BA sues Sabena for £17m outlay on aborted venture

BY TOM WALKER AND HARVEY ELLIOTT

BRITISH Airways is suing Sabena, the Belgian carrier, over the failed Sabena World Airlines venture planned jointly with BA and KLM two years ago.

BA paid around £17 million to Sabena, as did KLM, when the three airlines seemed close to creating Sabena World Airlines centred on Brussels airport.

According to both BA and KLM, the agreement clearly stated that if the deal collapsed they would get their money back by the end of December. This has not happened and BA said that although it was still talking to Sabena it was bringing the action "to protect our position".

"We are still in discussions with Sabena. We have started legal proceedings as a precautionary measure for our own protection," BA said.

Any court action would take place in Belgium. KLM has not sued jointly with BA, but is pursuing its own case.

KLM has already begun similar proceedings against the Belgian airline, which is now in the process of being merged with Air France, although that deal too has been bogged down because of political problems in Belgium.

A spokeswoman for Sabena said the protocol signed by the three airlines had said if the money was not repaid, Sabena would pay interest on the debt. "This we are doing."

She said Sabena intended to repay the debt, but the delay in Sabena's partnership agreement with Air France, which would provide a much-needed capital injection to the cash-strapped airline, was at the root of the problem.

Sabena said the airline had been told of separate actions by BA and KLM, but had received no court confirmation. "Officially, we don't know about it yet," the spokeswoman said, adding the action was no surprise.

"We knew this was possible when we decided not to pay by the end of last year." The action could not have come at a worse time for Sabena, which is desperately seeking a business partner. As the state owns 53 per cent of the airline, the Air France deal has to be approved by the government, and at the moment the nationalist Flemish Volksunie party is blocking it on the grounds that it would make the airline too French.

Sabena has never made a substantial profit (in 1990 its loss was £119 million) and has just 31 planes and 11,000 employees. Many of its routes still serve former Belgian colonies in Africa, and mismanagement by a complicated Walloon-Fleming power-sharing structure has always plagued the airline.

The Sabena-KLM-BA venture would have provided a European "hub and spoke" service based on Brussels. But the European Commission took a dim view of the plan, and with Sabena's own finances in a precarious state, the other two partners decided to pull out.

Aer Lingus fined over competition

BY OUR AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE European Commission yesterday showed its determination to support small airlines that take on big national carriers. It fined Aer Lingus £532,000 for refusing to co-operate with British Midland on flights between London and Dublin.

British Midland, which began flying on the route in 1989, complained to the commission that the Irish airline had refused to honour its tickets or to allow passengers to switch from one airline to the other. That made it difficult for British Midland to establish itself on the route and to compete effectively.

The commission's decision had been widely predicted but the size of the fine was higher than Aer Lingus had expected. The airline said last night that it needed time to consider its response.

British Midland was delighted. Sir Michael Bishop, its chairman, said: "It shows clear evidence of the commission's determination to act against airlines holding dominant positions where they attempt to prevent the development or maintenance of competition."

He added: "The decision establishes an important precedent that dominant airlines should not seek to use the withdrawal of interlining facilities as a competitive weapon."

In the first year, British Midland operated on the London-Dublin route, flown by 1.6 million passengers a year, it took a fifth of the market; that rose to 26 per cent when British Airways withdrew completely last year. In the past three months, British Midland, which operates eight flights a day compared with 12 by Aer Lingus, claims its share has risen to 30 per cent. It argues that if passengers were allowed to switch tickets, the figure would have been even higher.

Sir Leon Brittan, EC commissioner for competition policy, said: "At a time when the European transport industry is being liberalised, airlines making use of the new opportunities for competition should be given a fair chance to develop and sustain their challenge to established carriers."

The commission said that the order forcing Aer Lingus to co-operate with British Midland should run for two years; by that time, British Midland should have become sufficiently well established on the route not to need protection.

Lilley gives all-clear to Macarthy suitors

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

Pleased: Peter Dodd, chief executive of UniChem, which may renew its bid

PETER Lilley, the trade and industry secretary, has cleared the two rival takeover bids for Macarthy, the Savory & Moore pharmaceuticals group.

Both bids, from UniChem, which is Britain's largest pharmaceutical wholesaler, and Lloyds Chemists, Britain's second largest retail chemists' chain, are likely to be revived, and shares in Macarthy surged 17p to 316p. Lloyds Chemists lost 5p to 340p, while UniChem firmed 2p to 203p.

The bids were initially referred after fears that a takeover could create a United Kingdom duopoly in the wholesaling of ethical products, or prescribed drugs.

However, although the Monopolies and Mergers Commission found that the pharmaceutical market was becoming increasingly concentrated, and that there was an increasing degree of vertical integration between wholesalers and retailers, it ruled that a link-up between Macarthy and either bidder would not materially reduce competition in any of their markets — as wholesale and retail chemists and in the health food market. Neither bid was likely to operate against the public interest.

Lloyds, which claims to speak for 9.9 per cent of Macarthy's shares, and had received acceptances in respect of 65 per cent when the bids were referred, has previously indicated that it would offer at least 306p in any new offer for Macarthy.

UniChem, where Peter Dodd is chief executive, and which has moved closer to Macarthy by taking over as distributor to its Savory & Moore chemist chain, said yesterday it was "naturally pleased". It would now consider its position in the light of this report and its recent pharmacy acquisitions, including the Moss group of chemists, before deciding its course.

Jeff Harris, UniChem's finance director, said: "There remains a natural synergy and commercial logic in a combination of the respective businesses, but only on the right terms."

An earlier, all-paper £83 million offer from Grampian Holdings, the Scottish mini-conglomerate, has already failed.

Allen Lloyd, chairman and chief executive of Lloyds, said: "We will be re-examining the attractiveness of Macarthy in the light of what has happened in the intervening period and of other opportunities available to Lloyds."

Investments help lift Daily Telegraph

BY MATTHEW BOND

PRE-TAX profits at The Daily Telegraph, publisher of *The Daily Telegraph* and *Sunday Telegraph*, have risen 5.2 per cent to £40.5 million in the year to end-December, helped by a 42 per cent rise in investment income. Operating profits fell from £33.3 million to £32.7 million, on sales marginally lower at £219 million.

Conrad Black, chairman, said: "We have enjoyed an excellent result in difficult trading conditions. The continuation of our policy to increase circulation revenues, while at the same time enhancing the quality of our two titles, has helped to offset the 12.5 per cent decline in advertising revenue."

The group's post-tax profits rose 43 per cent to £33.9 million, with the tax charge falling from £14.8 million to £6.6 million, as the substantial provision for advance corporation tax after the £40 million sale of the group's Docklands headquarters was reversed. An unchanged final dividend of 4.5p gives a total of 9p, matching last year's ordinary distribution.

At the end of last year, a consortium led by Mr Black bid successfully for the John Fairfax newspaper group in Australia with a £634 million offer. The Daily Telegraph has a 15 per cent stake. Mr Black said: "We hold a 15 per cent interest in the company with hopes of increasing our share over time and are confident of having bought assets of the highest quality at a very reasonable price." Joe Cooke, managing director of The Daily Telegraph, said a flotation of Fairfax was planned for April.

Riklis stores group seeks protection

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

PART of the $1 billion empire of Meshulam Riklis, the American financier, has collapsed into the protection of the American bankruptcy courts. Mr Riklis, aged 68, the husband of Pia Zadora, a singer and former Hollywood starlet, was not available for comment.

Mr Riklis's 1,000-store McCrory Corporation, which is among America's largest downmarket convenience stores, is now under bankruptcy protection.

Mr Riklis has halted a $3.4 million interest payment on one of McCrory's convertible bonds and suspended payments to some suppliers. Standard & Poor's has already downgraded the bond from a triple C minus to D, giving it junk bond status

Shares in Kleinwort and Warburg slump

BY NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

SHARES in Kleinwort Benson and SG Warburg, two of the City's leading merchant banks, plummeted yesterday after they revealed worse than expected profit figures.

Kleinwort made a pre-tax profit of £27.9 million last year, a sharp increase on record losses of £68 million in 1990. Nevertheless, the shares slumped 13p to 263p since the profits were more than £5 million below City forecasts and the bank made only £3.2 million in the second half of the year.

There were bad debt provisions of £39 million. That was £4 million lower than in 1990 but Kleinwort said it was scaling down its corporate lending book to avoid further losses. The final dividend is held again at 10.7p to make 16p for the year.

Warburg issued an unexpected profit forecast of between £155 million and £178 million for the year to March 31, since it plans an overseas debt placing. The bank's profits will be the second highest on record, despite the recession, but the City had been hoping for up to £200 million. The shares plunged 36p to 538p.

Jonathan Agnew, Kleinwort's chief executive, said there had been a substantial turnround from 1990. "This is a considerable step on the road to recovery." High banking provisions, however, had had a negative impact on profits. During the year, Kleinwort's corporate lending fell by a quarter to £661 million and Mr Agnew said it would be cut by another third in the next two years.

Tempus, page 20

Brit Alcan losses worsen

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Alcan Aluminium will next month reveal that losses worsened during 1991, even though the company shed 1,180 employees, more than a tenth of its workforce.

The group, which accounts for two-thirds of Britain's primary aluminium production, launched a fierce cost cutting drive after losses in 1990 totalled £12.3 million.

However, the company found it hard to keep pace with the decline of its markets. David Morton, chairman of Alcan Aluminium, the group's Canadian parent, said a flood of aluminium on to world markets caused by lower demand in the Commonwealth of Independent States pushed prices to their lowest level ever, in real terms, by the end of the year. The group's worldwide loss last year was $36 million.

The pressure for cost savings is expected to continue in 1992, although British Alcan believes the scope for further job cuts is limited.

The 1990 loss was the first since the creation of British Alcan in 1982 from the British Aluminium Company and Alcan of Canada.

Pension industry calls for tighter self-investment rules

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

THE pensions industry is deeply disappointed over the government's failure to impose tighter limits on investment by pension funds in their sponsoring companies, according to a leading figure from the National Association of Pension Funds.

The Maxwell affair highlighted the dangers of too close a relationship between pension funds and the firms that sponsor them, and self-investment in the company's shares or property has been a long-term concern of the NAPF.

The association, which published a comprehensive report on self-investment in June 1988, now feels that its detailed advice was not taken sufficiently seriously by the government. The Social Security Act empowered the government to address the problem, but draft regulations have only just been laid before parliament.

Clive Gilchrist, chairman of the association's key investment committee, will tell the NAPF investment conference at Eastbourne, East Sussex, today that his committee is very disappointed about the government regulations, which fall short of what the industry feels is required. Mr Gilchrist, who steps down from the chairmanship at the conference, is also expected to draw delegates' attention to the need for strict separation of pension fund custodians and investment fund managers, a division opposed by leading banks.

The government regulations, expected to take effect next month, restrict self-investment to 5 per cent of the value of a pension fund. But the NAPF is not happy with the government decision to limit self-investment to quoted assets only. It would also like restrictions on self-investment to apply to existing, and not merely new, investment.

Gilchrist: disappointed

Mr Gilchrist said the NAPF was in the position of having identified many of the dangers encountered by Maxwell pensioners well in advance of the government. However, he underlined that the NAPF would prefer a code of best practice in the industry rather than legislative rules.

The NAPF's code of best practice proposed that no new self-investment of any type should be made by pension funds, except in certain extreme circumstances. If such investment is made, the code calls for no restrictions on the trustees' ability to sell the investment subsequently. Another of its proposals is for annual disclosure by funds of the level of self investment.

Tomorrow, the NAPF conference will hear Barbara Mills, outgoing director of the Serious Fraud Office (SFO), who is due to speak on the role of the SFO in the financial markets.

TUC to shed staff as unions shrink

BY ROSS TIEMAN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

TRADE union membership in Britain fell by as much as 450,600 last year, according to a confidential report drawn up for Norman Willis, the general secretary of the Trades Union Congress.

Membership of TUC affiliated unions is believed to have fallen by 5 to 5.5 per cent, the report shows. If that is so, the total TUC membership may now be little more than 7.74 million, compared with more than 12 million in 1979.

The slump in union membership is largely blamed upon job losses, especially in manufacturing. The AEU engineering union estimates that its roll has declined by 10 per cent, to around 640,000, in the past 12 months. As union membership falls, the burden of supporting the TUC staff grows proportionately heavier for those who remain in work.

Many unions automatically lose members who are made redundant. That is because union subscriptions are often collected by employers under an arrangement known as check-off.

Members of the TUC's general council yesterday approved a plan to seek a 20 per cent cut in the organisation's 250-strong workforce in an effort to save money. Staff representatives have been assured the cuts will be sought through early retirement, voluntary severance and natural wastage. Last year, the TUC shed 30 employees.

The new round of job losses at the headquarters of the trade union movement are a direct consequence of the noose tightening around its income.

The finances of the TUC rely overwhelmingly upon a levy on affiliated unions, which is calculated according to how many members they have.

In 1990, the latest year for which the TUC has filed accounts, the levy provided all but £37,000 of the TUC's £7.19 million income. Last year, a 1.12p levy on the TUC's 8.19 million members raised £9.18 million. This year, the organisation has lifted the levy to 1.23p, which is likely to generate an income of about £9.5 million despite the reduced membership.

However, since 1989 the TUC has been developing a growing deficit. In 1989, TUC spending exceeded income by £475,471. In 1990, the shortfall rose to £690,047. Mr Willis is now apparently determined to prevent it escalating further.

The TUC's pay bill for its staff, who are concentrated at Congress House in London, is the biggest item among its outgoings. In 1990, salaries and national insurance contributions amounted to £2.57 million. These are one of the easiest targets for cuts.

Many other outgoings are less controllable. The TUC contributed £1.13 million in 1990 for affiliation to three international labour organisations, including the European TUC. It also spent more than £1.1 million on education programmes and £620,000 on regional trades councils.

TEMPUS

CU pays up to accentuate the difference

TO OPEN the composite insurance results season, Commercial Union has posed a teasing question. Is its dividend rise, albeit only 2.8 per cent in line with the interim, a gesture of bravado aiming to underline the greater weakness of some rivals, or is there some justification not apparent from the group's £68.6 million pre-tax loss?

CU certainly performed better than its rivals in the sense that its loss will be by far the smallest. Due to its American disasters of yesteryear, it has adopted a cautious policy, reinsuring heavily and not having money to buy expensive chains of estate agents. Management even limited mortgage indemnity losses to £14 million, out of total UK non-life losses of £85 million, by a deliberate policy of cutting its share of the market from 5 to 2 per cent.

The first evidence of higher premium rates comes in a 15 per cent rise in UK non-life premium income, two fifths of the group total, which is still gathering momentum as renewals fall due and some premiums are raised further. This has not led to any dire loss of business.

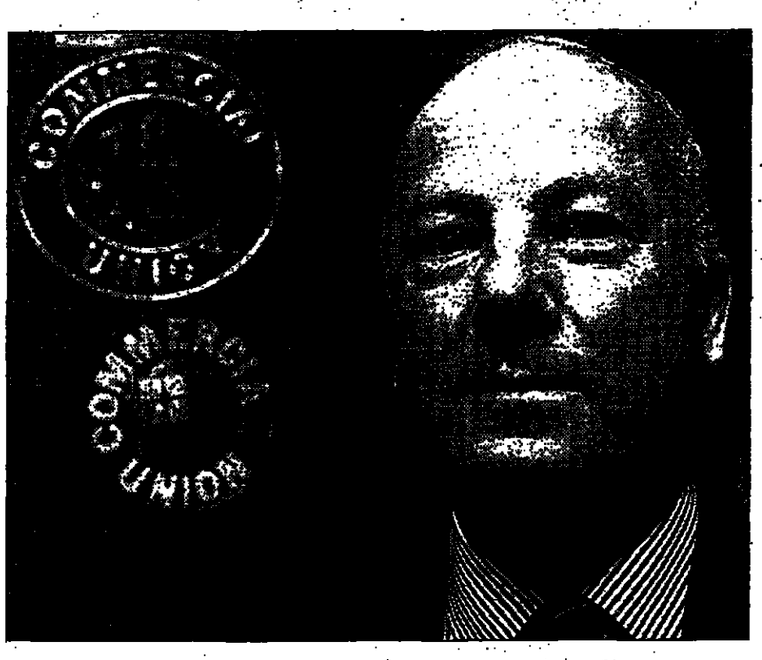
The group has already increased non-life profits, and even reduced underwriting losses in America and The Netherlands. So there is at least some basis for chief executive Tony Brend's hope of better results this year, even though reinsurance is now so much more expensive that the group has had to retain more risk.

The main plank for the dividend, however, is the life business in Britain and The Netherlands. This is much stronger than most of the other true composites. From a 15 per cent rise in premiums, the life side delivered a 12 per cent rise in profit to £114 million, notionally covering the increased dividend, even though new subsidiaries in southern Europe showed development losses of £4.5 million. CU claims life profits are heavily understated in some territories as policy costs are written off in year one.

Life business is building steadily, creating a reasonably strong position across Europe, is not capital intensive and carries relatively low risk. The results would also look better if the £42 million five-year moving average of unrealised investment profits were added.

These arguments clearly do not convince everyone. Even after an 8p rise to 464p, the shares yield 6.8 per cent. The dividend left shareholders' funds lower at the end of the year and at BZW, David Hudson is still looking in 1992 for a loss of £25 million and fears the dividend will then be cut.

This pessimistic view carries a gloomy message for the rest of the sector, even though others have more one-off losses to reduce or eliminate this year. CU has to convince its City neighbours that it is different and that it is edging across the spectrum to the life-dominated composites. Shares look good long-term value.



Where there's life: Tony Brend, CU's chief executive, expects better results

Kleinwort

SHAREHOLDERS in Kleinwort Benson have grown accustomed to false dawns. Last year was no exception. The bank rang up a £24.7 million profit in a promising first half. The business sagged in the second six months and only produced £3.2 million.

While this is an immense improvement on the record loss of £68 million in 1990, the maintained dividend of 16p still led to a £2.4 million drain on reserves. Kleinwort produced a pre-tax profit of £83.3 million in its heyday in 1989.

The bank says it has reduced costs by £50 million since then, so it should be capable of producing more than £100 million a year even on a conservative estimate. This would equal a reasonable, 23.5 per cent return on shareholders' funds of £425 million. However, the low quality of Kleinwort's earnings means this forecast is a pipe dream.

The volatility is best seen in the merchant banking and securities side where profits reached £23.4 million in the first six months but slumped to just £1.3 million in the second half, suggesting that the equities, treasury and corporate finance businesses were barely profitable throughout the summer and autumn.

Then the bank has to deal with a constant flow of bad debts from its corporate loan book. These fell 9 per cent to £39 million last year, but were still 1.7 per cent of the loan book. Kleinwort is trying to avoid future bad debts by scaling down its corporate lending. Loans have fallen by half, to £661 million, in the past two years and are expected to shrink by another half by 1994.

Kleinwort will only lend to oil the wheels of profitable, fee-earning corporate relationships in future. The manoeuvre may indeed reduce bad debts, but it could leave the bank even more reliant on volatile sources of income, like corporate finance and securities.

The figures were worse than expected and the shares fell 13p to 263p. The wild swings in the bank's results make any forecast a matter of guesswork, but the p/e ratio is 14 if it makes £38 million this year. The uncertainties make the shares expensive despite the 25 per cent discount to net assets.

WALL STREET

New York — Blue chips rose in morning trading in a partial recovery from Tuesday's selling. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 5.17 points to 3,263 after falling almost 25 points on Tuesday.

☐ Tokyo — Shares closed near their high for the session on the first trading day for March delivery. The Nikkei index rose 339.22 points, or 1.61 per cent, to 21,364.77. Turnover was 200 million shares against 158 million on Tuesday. *(Reuter)*

RECENT ISSUES

Capital Industries 1p	61	...
Exeter Preferred Capital (100)	102½	...
Fleming Japanese Warrants	35½	...
Genesis Chile Fund Wrnts 1c	329	...
Latin Amer Inc & Ap (£10½)	£12	...
Lloyds Smlr Co Pckg Uts (100)	98	...
Lloyds Smlr Co's Div 1p (38)	37	...
Lloyds Smlr Co's Cap 1p (62)	60	...
Multitrust Warrants	11	...
River & Merc Tst Inc 12½p	103	...
-do- Stppd Prf 12½p	122¾	+ ½
Usher-Walker (RFD 1/1/92)	160	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

BTP 10p N/P (205)	20	...
Bromsgrove Industries N/P (105)	1½	...
Drummond N/P (39)	1	...
ECC Group N/P (415)	79	...
Porvair 2p N/P (115)	16	...
Senior Engineering 10p N/P (58)	11	+1½
Wamoughs N/P (350)	47	−1
Wembley 5p N/P (30)	4½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Sema Group	234p (+20p)
Unitech	225p (+17p)
Kwik Save	573p (+15p)
ADT	440p (+20p)
BOC	649p (+14p)
Kingfisher	547p (+11p)
Floges	250p (+15p)
Macarthy	316p (+17p)
Commercial Union	466p (+10p)
Pearson	807p (+12p)
Eurotunnel Uts	459p (+10p)
Tiphook	382p (+18p)
Vodafone	364p (+8p)
RHM	214p (+8p)

FALLS:

News Corp	715p (−10p)
Capita Group	306p (−11p)
Barclays	374p (−20p)
Kleinwort Benson	265p (−11p)
SG Warburg	538p (−36p)
Grand Met	932p (−15p)

Closing Prices..Page 22

STOCK MARKET

Hopes for giveaway Budget boost shares

THE absence of any positive news from the Square Mile this week has forced investors to turn their attention to next month's so-called giveaway Budget. As a result, share prices and government securities were again rising, in the belief that the Chancellor's proposals may help to revive the economy.

Vodafone, the cellular telephone operator, rose 8p to 364p. The group was due to talk to American fund managers last night. Goldman Sachs, the New York securities house, *remains "very positive"* about Vodafone and is looking for strong earnings growth during the next couple of years.

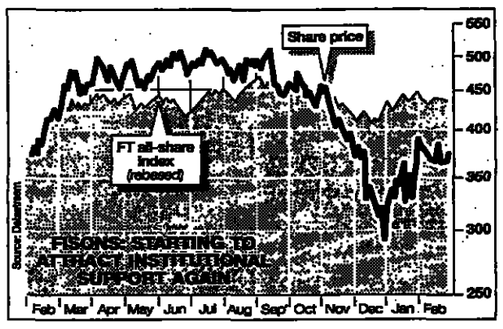
Hopes of that long-awaited cut in interest rates also lingered. Trading conditions remained scrappy with a turnover of 548 million shares. However, another strong performance in the financial futures market saw the FT-SE 100 index March series top the 2,580 level. In the cash market, the FT-SE index closed just below its best of the day, with a rise of 18.2 points at 2,565.0, in spite of a firm start on Wall Street. Government securities made gains of £¼ at the longer end, cheered by the appearance of a few overseas buyers.

Leading shares received selective support, with **Fisons** beginning to attract institutional support again. The halt in the production of several drugs and a disappointing set of figures recently have left the shares languishing. However, some investors now see them as a recovery situation. There is also the possibility of a bid. Fisons closed 8p dearer at 380p.

BP recovered from some of its recent losses with a rise of 5p to 264p as Salomon Brothers, the New York securities house, made some favourable comments.

There was little respite for the banks as **Barclays** reported worse than expected full-year figures. The shares responded with a fall of 20p to 374p.

National Westminster, which reported a sharp drop in profits on Tuesday, rose 4p to 312p. **Lloyds** advanced 4p to 413p, with **Midland**, due to unveil full-year figures today, firming 1p to 235p.



News of a profits warning saw the shares in **SG Warburg**, the merchant banking and securities group, fall 38p to 536p. The group says pre-tax profits for the second half of the year to March 31 would fail to match the £89 million made in the first half but would exceed the £66 million reported for the corresponding period last year. Plans are under way to raise extra capital by way of a private placing of shares. Warburg blamed conditions in the investment banking and securities market during the final quarter.

The news from Warburg came on the same day that its rival **Kleinwort Benson** reported a return to the black with full-year pre-tax profits of £27.9 million against a deficit last time of £68 million, mainly the result of a trading loss on its stake in Premier Consolidated Oilfields and the Japanese warrants market. However, the group admitted that trading conditions in the second half had been difficult. Kleinwort finished 13p cheaper at 263p.

Commercial Union rose 10p to 466p after raising its final dividend despite plunging into the red.

The gloomy outlook for the industry failed to shake the other insurers, with gains for **General Accident**, 3p to 436p, **Royal Insurance**, reporting tomorrow, 4p to 226p, and **Sun Alliance**, 5p to 284p. Only **Guardian Royal Exchange** finished lower, shedding 1p to 119p.

Macarthy, the pharmaceuticals group, jumped 17p to 316p as Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, gave rival bids from **UniChem**, 2p better at 203p, and **Lloyds Chemists**, down 5p at 340p, the go-ahead. **Grampian**, which has dropped its bid for Macarthy, was 4p better at 169p. The speculators were claiming last night that **AAH**, 1p firmer at 506p, may decide to make an offer.

Bid hopes continued to drive **Unitech** higher, with the shares finishing 17p better at 225p. This week, Elektrowatt, the Swiss group with almost 30 per cent of the shares, announced that it had been in talks with another shareholder about a joint offer.

Tiphook, the trailer and container rentals group, extended this week's rally with a rise of 18p to 382p as the company continued its attempt to alleviate institutions' fears about the balance sheet and possible writedowns. County NatWest WoodMac has repeated its buy recommendation and the company's own broker, Warburg Securities, has also been picking up the shares for its clients.

Lasmo, the oil exploration group, which took over Ultramar last year, finished 2p lighter at 199p. Smith New Court is believed to have paid 191p a share for a parcel of at least 4 million shares that it later sold to institutional clients at 195p. A total of 9.3 million shares were traded.

MICHAEL CLARK

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	1,900	Courtaulds	1,100	MEPC	1,300	Sainsbury	2,000
Alld-Lyons	*613*	*Enterpr Oil*	*583*	*Marks Spr*	*1,400*	*Scot & New*	*546*
Anglian W	530	Eurotnnl U	1,300	Midlnd Bk	2,800	Scot Power	2,100
Argyll Gp	3,000	Fisons	1,200	NFC	1,100	Sears	1,100
Arjo Wiggn	1,200	Forte	752	Nat West	13,000	Svrn Trent	508
AB Foods	533	GRE	3,400	Nat Power	1,600	Shell Trans	4,100
BAA	554	GUS A	111	Nth Wst W	589	SmKl Bch	3,900
BAT Inds	2,500	Gen Acc	814	Nthm Fds	1,100	Smith Nph	447
BET	726	Gen Elec	9,900	P & O	1,100	Smith (WH)	761
BOC	658	Glaxo	1,800	Pearson	889	Sun Allnce	1,500
BP	36,000	Grand Met	1,800	Pilkington	566	TSB	685
BTR	2,900	Guinness	2,000	PowerGen	3,900	Tarmac	1,100
Bk of Scot	3,900	Hanson	6,100	Prudential	3,600	Tate & Lyle	1,300
Barclays	18,000	Hillsdown	1,200	RMC	300	Tesco	6,100
Bass	1,100	ICI	1,000	RTZ	569	Thames W	759
Blue Circle	888	Inchcape	411	Rank Org	559	Thrn EMI	310
Boots	581	*Kingfisher*	*676*	*Reckitt Col*	*498*	Tomkins	604
Brit Aero	1,600	LASMO	9,400	Redland	1,100	Traf House	1,000
Brit Airwys	1,900	Ladbroke	1,900	Reed Intl	399	Unilever	2,400
Brit Gas	5,100	Land Secs	808	Rentokil	173	Utd Bisc	1,100
Brit Steel	1,800	Laporte	316	Reuters	392	Vodafone	5,900
Brit Tele	2,100	Legal & Gn	825	Rolls Royce	1,500	Wellcome	515
Cable Wire	503	Lloyds Bk	3,000	Rothmans	369	Whitbd 'A'	1,200
Cadbury	483	Lonrho	9,800	Royal Ins	2,100	Wilms Hld	667
Cm Union	2,200	MB Cardn	113	Ryl Bk Scot	2,700	Willis Crm	1,500

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday)
Dow Jones .... 3264.09 (+6.26)
S&P Composite .... 412.42 (+1.97)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge 21364.77 (+339.22)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ...... 4794.71 (+34.51)

FT-SE Euro 100 1165.89 (+9.47)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 126.4 (+0.6)

Sydney: AO .... 1638.1 (−1.8)

Frankfurt: DAX 1737.27 (+14.97)

Brussels:
General .... 5834.91 (−25.11)

Paris: CAC .... 520.25 (−4.26)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 483.5 (+4.5)

London:
FT A All-Share .. 1228.94 (+7.64)
FT 500 .... 1385.72 (+9.68)
FT Gold Mines ...... 128.7 (−1.1)
FT Fixed interest . 101.45 (+0.12)
FT Govt Secs .... 88.49 (+0.18)
Bargains 26639
SEAQ Volume 548.6m
USM (Datastrm) . 140.14 (+0.21)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
February 17	February 28	May 28	June 8

Call options were taken out on 26/2/92: Albert Fisher, Berisford Intl, Granada, Hanson Wts, Next, Saatchi & Saatchi. Puts: Amber Day, Hanson Wts, George Wimpey.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 40360	Mar 92	2566.0	2587.0	2566.0	2584.0	5212
	Jun 92	*2614.0*	*2624.0*	*2611.0*	*2624.0*	*421*
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 213600	Mar 92	89.90	89.90	89.84	89.86	19040
	Jun 92	90.16	90.18	90.13	90.17	12435
	Sep 92	90.44	90.48	90.44	90.48	1379
Three Mth Eurodollar Previous open interest: 47685	Mar 92	95.72	95.73	95.69	95.73	2071
	Jun 92	95.42	95.44	95.40	95.43	2265
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 248383	Mar 92	90.44	90.44	90.42	90.43	3580
	Jun 92	90.80	90.83	90.78	90.82	17580
US Treasury Bond Previous open interest: 4308	Mar 92	99-18	99-26	99-15	99-26	2924
	Jun 92	98-16	98-23	98-16	98-25	633
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 62699	Mar 92	98-00	98-08	97-29	98-06	[illegible]
	Jun 92	98-11	98-19	98-08	98-17	[illegible]
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 92	102.48	102.48	102.44	102.47	31
	Jun 92	*102.26*	*102.28*	*102.20*	*102.25*	*435*
German Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 98438	Mar 92	87.98	88.29	87.94	88.26	71723
	Jun 92	88.50	88.84	88.50	88.82	12091
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 8925	Mar 92	90.01	90.01	89.97	89.99	500
	Jun 92	90.36	90.38	90.32	90.32	408
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 32973	Mar 92	92.40	92.40	92.30	92.33	2560
	Jun 92	92.70	92.73	92.64	92.67	2275
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 23411	Mar 92	99.04	99.40	99.04	99.32	8354
	Jun 92	99.20	99.53	99.19	99.45	4663

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

COMMODITIES

REPORT: Robusta coffee futures finished with mixed trends in business dominated by the rolling forward of positions out of near March before it becomes tenderable at the start of next week. Cocoa futures closed firmer in moderate trade but still within their current range, with around half the volume made up of crosses. The wheat market saw some aggressive selling to push prices down.

LONDON FOX

COCOA

Mar	674 BID	May	840-838
May	702-701	Jul	859-858
Jul	731-729	Sep	878 BID
Sep	756-755	Dec	905-900
Dec	791 SLR		
Mar	821-820		Volume: 9505

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	124.50
May	128.35
Jun	130.00
Sep	112.25
Nov	115.65

LONDON OIL REPORTS (ICIS-LOR) - **London 6.00pm: Having failed to break through the support levels, prices drifted about in a narrow range.**

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.25	−0.10
Brent 15 day (Mar)	17.30	−0.10
Brent 15 day (Apr)	17.30	−0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.40	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (May)	18.55	+0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	Bid: 197 (n/c)	Offer: 200 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	160 (n/c)	161 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Mar	162 (+1)	162 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Apr	161 (+1)	162 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	66 (n/c)	67 (n/c)

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 90.6 (day's range 90.4-90.7).

Mkt Rates for Feb 26	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.2380-3.2524	3.2493-3.2524	¼-⅛pr	⅝-½pr
Brussels	59.16-59.46	59.35-59.46	8-5pr	14-6pr
Copenhagen	11.1550-11.2086	11.1954-11.2086	⅝-¼pr	1¼-⅝pr
Dublin	1.0795-1.0825	1.0810-1.0820	1pr-3ds	1-8ds
Frankfurt	2.8799-2.8867	2.8818-2.8847	¼-⅛pr	⅝-¼pr
Lisbon	246.68-248.38	247.41-248.38	29-47ds	159-195ds
Madrid	180.47-180.80	180.55-180.80	16-29ds	87-104ds
Milan	2159.96-2166.73	2161.55-2164.16	1-3ds	8-9ds
Montreal	2.0500-2.0630	2.0610-2.0630	0.59-0.54pr	1.06-0.98pr
New York	1.7370-1.7467	1.7460-1.7467	0.94-0.92pr	2.54-2.48pr
Oslo	*11.2792-11.3273*	*11.3141-11.3273*	¼-⅛pr	¼-⅛ds
Paris	9.7880-9.8182	9.8065-9.8182	⅜-⅛pr	½-⅛pr
Stockholm	10.4133-10.4750	10.4620-10.4750	1⅝-1⅞ds	5⅜-5⅞ds
Tokyo	225.46-226.48	226.19-226.46	1-⅞pr	2⅜-2¼pr
Vienna	20.2472-20.3421	20.3165-20.3421	1⅜-½pr	3⅜-1⅛pr
Zurich	2.6133-2.6207	2.6155-2.6183	⅝-½pr	1⅝-1½pr

Source: Extel — *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

Argentina austral*	1.7248-1.7277
Australia dollar	2.3222-2.3252
Bahrain dinar	0.6525-0.6605
Brazil cruzeiro *	2750.79-2752.73
Cyprus pound	0.804-0.814
Finland marka	7.87-7.93
Greece drachma	330.40-333.60
Hong Kong dollar	13.5132-13.5228
India rupee	45.18-45.58
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5095-0.5155
Malaysia ringgit	4.5109-4.5153
Mexico peso	5300-5400
New Zealand dollar	3.2151-3.2230
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.4725-6.5525
Singapore dollar	2.8613-2.8648

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.3338-1.3347
Austria	11.65-11.67
Belgium (Com)	34.05-34.09
Canada	1.1810-1.1815
Denmark	6.4150-6.4250
France	*5.6325-5.6375*
Germany	1.6565-1.6575
Hong Kong	7.7618-7.7628
Ireland	1.6120-1.6135
Italy	1242.0-1243.0
Japan	129.80-129.90
Malaysia	2.5910-2.5920
Netherlands	1.8630-1.8640
Norway	6.4850-6.4950
Portugal	142.30-142.50

COMMENT

Interest cut may be now or never

The central case in the National Institute's latest economic forecasts assumes a tax cut of £2 billion in the Budget, no immediate cut in interest rates and the re-election of a Conservative government. Most Conservative politicians would question at least one of those three assumptions. Unless the Chancellor proves more generous in cutting taxes or interest rates, few fancy the government's re-election chances. This leads to the big question for the Chancellor — should he plan a tax giveaway, or an impressive interest rate cut?

Until last week, the question was easily answered. The ERM strait-jacket seemed to rule out any cut in rates. The recent strength of sterling has since raised hopes in the Treasury that interest rates could yet be turned into the government's winning ticket, avoiding any significant cuts in taxes beyond the penny off income tax which is already fully discounted by the markets. Some Tory MPs talk with growing confidence of a full point off base rates, either immediately after the Budget or in two half-point steps. Unfortunately, the Chancellor may find his room for manoeuvre limited. Sterling's sudden recovery and the apparent loosening of the ERM constraint is entirely due to the fall of the mark against the dollar since Christmas. This trend may well continue in the long run, but the dollar has risen so fast that it should be due for at least a temporary retreat.

If the mark were to start rising against the dollar in the days after the Budget, Britain's chance of a full-point cut in interest rates would vanish. Yesterday, Nicholas Brady, the American Treasury Secretary, remarked that American interest rates are still "too high in real terms" to allow an adequate economic recovery. Alan Greenspan may well agree if he sees another weak economic indicator like Tuesday's plunge in consumer confidence. If the Fed cut its rates, the surge of the dollar against the mark could be reversed and the window of opportunity to cut British rates would close abruptly. The Chancellor may prefer to get at least a half-point cut under his belt while the markets are still receptive, instead of waiting until Budget day.

Fat Barclays

Barclays lost friends in the City yesterday. The slump in profits might have been forgiven but the 14 per cent rise in the bank's costs could hardly be ignored in a year when parsimony was the key. The bank pleaded that it needed to finance expansion of its growth businesses, such as financial services and investment banking, for long-term success, that its new continental businesses had contributed 3 per cent of the increase and that the 5,000 reduction in staff numbers showed how tough it really was on costs. All that is true but the reason lies elsewhere. The bank was punished for its generosity a year ago when it awarded an 8 per cent pay rise to staff. Even at the time the award looked excessive and it appears completely out of line with subsequent events. Barclays staff costs grew 12 per cent to £2.38 billion in 1991, despite the job losses.

Brian Pitman, Lloyds Bank's chief executive, spelled out the link between staff numbers, staff pay and the success of Britain's banks very simply last week. For every 1 per cent on this year's pay award, he warned Lloyd's employees that the bank would have to shed another 650 jobs. Barclays' board would be well advised to do a similar calculation. Banks face a period of low inflation and sluggish loan demand. Unless they control their costs with an iron rod, they will quickly run out of control. Barclays cannot afford to delay its recovery by poor housekeeping.

The gatecrasher still casts a shadow over ICI's party

As the chemical giant reports its profits, William Kay believes Lord Hanson's flutter may be a case of heads I win, tails you lose

Galvanised steel: Sir Denys's anti-recession strategy was sharpened by the Hanson effect

Despite his recent disavowal of intent to take over ICI, the tall, aquiline figure of Lord Hanson inevitably casts an ominous shadow over the chemicals group today as it announces its 1991 results.

At Hanson's annual meeting last month, his lordship confirmed that he had no current plans to bid, but added: "As ICI's second biggest shareholder we will continue to watch its progress with great interest and affection." Whether that turns out to be the distant affection of a kindly uncle, or the more urgent embrace of an ardent suitor, depends on how ICI behaves.

Had the right encouragement been forthcoming, either from ICI or Whitehall, this would have been the time to attack. The 36 per cent profits decline in 1990 has been followed by another significant fall last year. But analysts expect the profits to recover to £1 billion this year and surge ahead to £1.4 billion in 1993, pushing the group's market capitalisation towards £20 billion, a daunting mouthful even for the capacious Hanson.

Such a recovery will be a relatively nimble turnaround for the large and diverse business. But how much of it will really have been stimulated by Hanson's prodding, rather than the unprompted efforts of the ICI management? That question is tantalising analysts and investors as they try to gauge the strategy of Sir Denys Henderson, ICI's chairman.

Lord Hanson threw his topper into the ring last May, when the company that bears his name spent £240 million buying a 2.8 per cent stake in ICI. A slanging match ensued and although it died down after a couple of months, ICI's Millbank head office was galvanized. Their private fear had been realised: that the era of mega-bids would put the hitherto impregnable ICI in play.

Sir Denys had already laid down a strategy to beat the recession. That consisted of trimming ICI to seven business groupings — pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, chemicals and polymers, paints, explosives, materials and specialities — concentrated on Europe, North America and Asia/Pacific. And he had declared: "By definition, those that are not in those categories are either going to be run for cash or divested."

Already 15,000 employees have left ICI, including 5,000 departing with businesses sold. No management finds such cuts easy. More job losses are due to be announced today, and by the time the workforce has been trimmed to the bone and divestments completed the group's profits should be swollen by an extra £400 million a year.

Every month by which that programme is advanced earns ICI about £3 million in interest. Small beer in itself, for a company aiming at profits of £3 million a day, but significant in terms of its impact on the ICI culture. As one analyst said: "Hanson's stake has emphasised the need for ICI to improve profitability and performance."

The word at Millbank is that the so-called Hanson effect inevitably sharpened the anti-recession strategy, because staff were understandably nervous. Observers suggest that has enabled the management to take unpopular decisions more quickly and easily than would otherwise have been possible.

But Sir Denys points out that Hanson's emergence as a shareholder has also had negative effects. Staff were poached. Competitors warned customers that ICI's future was uncertain. Top management time was absorbed in keeping Hanson at bay.

Resolve has been stiffened by last September's appointment of 60-year-old Ronnie Hampel, an aggressive achiever, as ICI's first chief operating officer. Lord Hanson applauded the choice. Henderson remains chairman and chief executive with responsibility for strategic planning, senior appointments, improving the group's financial ratios and enhancing long-term shareholder value. A key part of Mr Hampel's brief is to mastermind the restructuring of the group, particularly ensuring that those £400 million-a-year cost savings are realised.

Cynics might say that the canny Sir Denys has the better of the split, but that is a chairman's prerogative. By the time he retires in 1995 he will have led ICI for longer than anyone since Sir Paul Chambers in 1960-8. He hopes his memorial will be a group transformed from the giant that lumbered across the industrial stage in the Sixties and Seventies.

Since 1980, sales of high added-value products have risen from a third to over half the total, while the UK share of the group's business has fallen from two-fifths to one-fifth.

Sir Denys has two main medium-term goals: to make the pharmaceuticals division a world player, and to minimise commodity chemicals. The pharmaceuticals operation, ICI's biggest profit earner, targets heart disease and cancer. But to fight heavyweights like Merck and Glaxo punch for punch it needs a takeover. The trouble is that the best prospects are too big or too dear, or both. Some observers believe that the business could eventually be squeezed to the point where it has to be sold, but that will probably be a decision for Sir Denys's successor. It would be a huge setback.

The chemicals division is burdened by world overcapacity. ICI is losing money on PVC and demand for chlorine-based chemicals is declining. Sales or closures are likely here, and in the materials division, where ICI is simply too small. So we can expect to see a continuation of the stream of disposals and closures that have been emanating from Millbank for the past year.

That should not discourage Hanson from holding on to its stake. It has the classic two-way bet: either the price of ICI shares will rise to reflect the success of Sir Denys's strategy, or it will falter, opening the door to a bid.

Along the directors' corridor at Millbank, they are acutely aware that Hanson's agm statement does little to tie his hands in the long run, should he decide to move. They are still on full alert.

Above all, investors should not discount the liberating effect of a Conservative victory in the general election. That could remove any qualms John Major may have had in the past nine months about a no-holds-barred battle over ICI's future. Conversely, the arrival of Neil Kinnock in Downing Street with a working majority would end Lord Hanson's dreams for good.

Britain's workers close on Germans

Britain's productivity gap with Germany has narrowed significantly during the Eighties, but is unlikely to be closed unless Britain commits more capital to redress skill shortages.

According to the National Institute of Economic Research*, Germany's productivity advantage over Britain has fallen from about 50 per cent in 1980 to 13 per cent in 1987. The gap narrowed further in 1988, but has since widened marginally.

Britain has overtaken Germany in productivity in three out of 14 sectors: chemicals, electrical engineering and basic metals, while Germany has the advantage in 11 sectors, including motor manufacturing.

The main reason behind the convergence in productivity was the restructuring of British industry. Between 1968 and 1987, German manufacturing output rose 40 per cent, while employment went down by 600,000. In Britain, output was up only 10 per cent, but employment was down by 3 million, or 37 per cent, 2.1 million of which occurred between 1979 and 1989.

Since Britons work longer hours than the Germans, Germany's productivity advantage measured in terms of worker-hours has fallen on a smaller scale, from about 50 per cent in 1979 to 22 per cent in 1987. The differences in hours worked is especially pronounced in engineering, vehicles and metals.

Britain's improved productivity was achieved at the costs of a heavy decline in the size of the manufacturing sector. On an employment basis, the manufacturing sector in Germany and Britain was the same size in 1968, but it was over 25 per cent smaller in Britain by 1987.

Surprisingly, Germany's deteriorating relative position is blamed on low investments. "The primary sources of the slowdown in German productivity has been historically low proportions of output which went to investment. A gap between real labour costs and productivity . . . led to lower profits and hence reduced investment. The slowdown in investment led to an ageing of the capital stock and hence lower growth rates of labour productivity." Rigidities in the German labour market, like the "high cost of firing", have also contributed to slow productivity growth in Germany.

But there was a critical note on Britain's performance. The rise in productivity, notes the report, was primarily due to more efficient use of labour and materials ("factor imputs"), and not "to any greater investment in physical capital, human capital or research and development". The report concludes that "redressing the skill deficiency would therefore appear to be important if British manufacturing is to get close to the productivity levels now enjoyed in Germany".

*"Productivity Levels in British and German Manufacturing Industry" by Mary O'Mahony, *National Institute Economic Review* February 1992

WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU
European Business Correspondent

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Burnham to start again

STEVE Burnham, co-founder and president of Cresvale, one of the biggest global derivatives firms, has resigned. Burnham, aged 42, and an expert in the Far Eastern markets, intends to begin again with another small firm of his own. He is toying with the idea of moving to Switzerland and hopes to be up and running within a year. His plans — "in derivatives but not only derivatives" — should be finalised before the end of the week. "There are certain restrictions on me at the moment," he says, "but I want to go and do it again." Burnham founded Cresvale in 1979, with Malcolm Stevenson as his partner. Stevenson remains as an executive director of Cresvale. "I'm very proud of all its achievements," adds Burnham, who previously ran the trading room at Dillon Read Overseas, and, before that, the Far Eastern desk at Akroyd and Smithers. Cresvale, which employs 400 people, is now 65 per cent owned by Pallas, a Luxembourg-based holding company, run by Frenchman Pierre Moussa.

Cold comfort

FAREPAK, the hamper company quoted on the USM, will have had an exciting February, whether or not it wins the company of the year award at the PLC dinner next month. Tomorrow, its cold store is being commandeered by six members of the British North Geomagnetic Pole Expedition, including David Hempleman-Adams, the team leader, so that they can prepare themselves for arctic conditions. Hempleman-Adams, who, in 1984, became the first person to reach the magnetic north pole unsupported, has instructed his fellow team members to bring their sleeping bags and a tent, to camp out in the Farepak store room — a company founded and run by ex-butcher Bob Johnson — from 10am on Friday until Saturday morning.

"Yesterday he was the business centre manager"

Support for Virgin

Lawyers were said to be at the ready to scrutinise carefully tonight's *This Week* programme, entitled *Violating Virgin*. Richard Branson's well-aired complaints of a British Airways dirty tricks campaign, which he claims is an attempt to force him out of business finds support from a hitherto uptapped source — that of Sir Freddie Laker.

While Laker's advice is said to be to "sue the bastards", the British Airways camp is wondering if there is any irony in Branson's choice of ally, since Laker's airline did, in the end, go out of business. British Airways does not take part in the programme. "We got no more out of them than anybody else," says programme editor Paul Woolwich. "They said that their legal department had investigated the claims and could find no foundation to any of them."

Tiffe for Liffe

LIFFE, the London International Financial Futures Exchange, had better be on its guard. On March 22, a four-man team from the Tokyo International Financial Futures Exchange, Tiffe, will arrive in London to explore ways of launching its own euroyen contract in Europe. Tiffe wants to win more international business for the three-month contract, first launched in 1989. Although it currently trades in Europe for only two hours a day, it has already become the second largest short-term interest rate futures contract in the world. Last year, 70,000 euroyen contracts were traded daily, almost half the volume of the much longer-established eurodollar. Keitaro Utsunomiya, Tiffe's chief secretary, says that the Japanese delegation will meet Liffe officials, before moving on for talks with their counterparts in Paris and Frankfurt, possibly to choose one of the exchanges as a partner in a joint venture. "In the long run, the exchange wishes to become more recognised by the non-Japanese investors and fund managers as one of the largest financial futures markets," says Utsunomiya. Liffe has now been warned.

CAROL LEONARD

BUSINESS LETTERS

ProShare repeats tax nostrums

From Mr Philip Chappell, CBE

Sir, ProShare is a splendid initiative, demonstrating full support at long last of the need for deeper, as well as wider, share ownership; it recognises the dangerous concentration of power that the existing system has generated, largely driven by tax distortions.

So it is sad that this general excellence should also be sullied by the old fashioned nostrums of looking for new tax incentives for the private investor. The way ahead is not by the so-called levelling-up of the complicated fiscal regime of mortgage relief, pension subsidy and such exotic instruments as BES and EZT: all these merely distort markets and provide unnecessary jobs for the Inland Revenue and the accountancy profession. The better way forward is for levelling-down, by first abolishing all these special interest concessions; by removing these privileges, on a revenue-neutral basis, we could eliminate all higher rates of income tax and reduce the basic rate well below 20 per cent. Now there is true initiative, which not only reduces the influence of politicians but also wins the hearts and votes of all investors.

The so-called EXPEP regime, "Extended Personal Equity Plans", originally promoted by Bill Robinson, then at The Institute for Fiscal Studies, is the obvious broad solution. All forms of savings should be subscribed out of after-tax income, subject to a low but genuinely effective tax rate, and then allowed to accumulate free of income tax and gains tax.

So an end to special pleading, please; give a welcome instead to a lower level of playing field.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP CHAPPELL,
Association of Investment Trust Companies,
22 Frognal Lane,
NW3.

Sound advice is often unpalatable

From D.H. Trathen

Sir, I am in complete agreement with the views expressed in Andrew Irvin's letter of February 24 concerning small businesses.

Following my early retirement as a branch manager from one of our major clearing banks, I set up my own part-time business expressly to assist small companies and family-owned businesses by providing them with regular and up-to-date management information at a low cost.

I would, however, point out a couple of factors that Mr Irvin has not mentioned. Firstly, in these days of the need for strict control of costs, many companies are now reluctant to take on any new commitments, however low these may be.

Secondly, although advice can be proffered upon request, usually supported by actual performance figures, this can be ignored by the proprietors as being too unpalatable to accept and they continue in their existing ways, often with ultimately disastrous results.

Yours faithfully,
D. H. TRATHEN,
Davoria Enterprises,
7 Westmont Road,
Hinchley Wood,
Esher,
Surrey.

Change the rules on depreciation

From Professor Samuel Eilon

Sir, In examining possible measures to "kick start" the economy, the Chancellor may wish to consider the abolition of the current rules regarding capital allowances for depreciation of plant and machinery. It can be argued that the first-year allowance (generally 25 per cent of the purchase cost) followed by allowances in later years (25 per cent of written-down values) have outlived their usefulness and that companies should be allowed to decide for themselves at what rate to depreciate most plant and machinery, so that whatever is written off in any one year would be allowed against tax in that year. Needless to say, an adjustment would continue to be made to account for any terminal value, if it differs from the written-down value.

Such a regime would simplify internal accounting procedures and could be a useful incentive to encourage companies to accelerate replacement schedules and to invest in modernising their facilities.

Yours faithfully,
PROFESSOR SAMUEL EILON,
Imperial College,
Exhibition Road,
SW7.

Vulgar Rollers

From Mr Edward Pool

Sir, Another present-day problem for Vickers to overcome is caused by the often perceived vulgarity of Rolls-Royce ownership.

I am Sir,
Yours faithfully,
EDWARD POOL,
20 Craven Cottages,
Hofland Road,
W14.

Top-level briefing on women employees

From Lesley Abdela

Sir, I agree with much of the list in "Best Companies For Women", the new Pandora book by Scarlet McGwire. I have personally been impressed with the work of BP, Channel 4 TV, Unilever, Littlewoods, LWT, Sainsbury's and Marks and Spencer.

And certainly the Civil Service deserves its number one spot.

I was given an extremely impressive briefing this month by the Cabinet Office's Second Permanent Secretary, Sir Peter Kemp.

He has invited me to return, probably in late April, with the directors and chairmen of private corporations, so his office can pass on the most effective training methods and psychological insights his teams have developed.

I had a call today from John Moores Jr's office at Littlewoods to say he would be delighted to attend.

Although numbers are clearly limited, I would be very pleased to hear from corporate chiefs who would like to attend, particularly those who have joined Opportunity 2000.

Yours faithfully,
LESLEY ABDELA,
The Lodge,
Conock Manor,
Wiltshire.

Falling off a bike

From Mr T. Hamilton-Jones

Sir, In the recent sale of BT shares I selected my "Share Shop", attracted by the idea of "Instant Share Dealing".

However, when I came to sell my shares I encountered an obstacle which none of their advertisements had warned me about. I arrived half an hour before the branch was due to close and was told that the computer had just been disconnected — and this despite the fact that the time, 4 o'clock, was well before the close of trading on the Stock Exchange.

So, I had wasted an hour and had my first experience ever of arriving at a bank before closing time and not being allowed to do the transaction I wanted to. As easy as falling off a bike?

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS HAMILTON-JONES,
19 Preston Road,
Upper Norwood, SE19.

Prices make small gains

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 24. Dealings end March 6. §Contango day March 9. Settlement day March 16. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Br Polythene	Industrial	
2	BAT	Tobaccos	
3	De La Rue	Industrial	
4	Wimpey G	Building,Rds	
5	Fisons	Industrial	
6	Tomkinsons	Textiles	
7	Br Airways	Transport	
8	Sherwood Gp	Drapery,Strs	
9	Wolvrhmptn D	Breweries	
10	Nat West	Banks,Disc	
11	Alexon	Drapery,Strs	
12	Bowater	Industrial	
13	Grampian Hd	Industrial	
14	Waddington (J)	Paper,Print	
15	Norcros	Industrial	
16	Courtaulds	Industrial	
17	Fine Art Dev	Drapery,Strs	
18	RMC Gp	Building,Rds	
19	Metal Bulletin	Newspapr,Pub	
20	Thorntons	Foods	
21	Argos Plc	Drapery,Strs	
22	Greene King	Breweries	
23	Harlnd Simon	Electrical	
24	Maunders (J)	Building,Rds	
25	Reckitt Colm	Industrial	
26	Boots	Industrial	
27	Airtours	Leisure	
28	Morrison (W)	Foods	
29	Wolseley	Industrial	
30	First Leisure	Leisure	
31	Wessex Water	Water	
32	Scot & New	Breweries	
33	Redland	Building,Rds	
34	Central TV	Leisure	
35	Whatman	Industrial	
36	Aerospace Eng	Industrial	
37	Unigate	Foods	
38	Burmah Castrl	Oils, Gas	
39	Vodafone	Electrical	
40	BT	Electrical	
41	Pentos	Drapery,Strs	
42	North West	Water	
43	ACT Group	Electrical	
44	Sunset & Vine	Leisure	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
311	211	Abbey Nat	305	+ 8	9.5	4.2	10.0
185	126	Allied Irish	169	- 1	...	5.5	12.3
60	23	Ansbacher (H)	32	...	1.5	6.3	...
199½	119½	Ans New Z	177 †	+ 1	...	4.7	14.7
2631	1218	Bankamerica	2443 †	...	...	...	...
173½	115½	Bk of Ireland	153	- 1	...	6.9	25.0
1950	1900	Bk Leumi Isrl	1900 #	...	...	...	...
350	340	Bk Leumi UK	340	...	16.0	6.5	...
126	91	Bank Scotland	114	+ 2	...	5.0	24.8
489	327	Barclays	374	-20	21.1	7.8	62.6
12	3	Benchmark	4½	...	...	...	17.9

(continued)

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
44	2¼	NSM	3¼	+ ¼	0.5	...	...
177	112	Newman Tnks	149	- 3	9.3	8.3	10.7
304	187	Penkintron	285	...	...	4.0	14.1
55	16	Phoenix Timber	24	+ 1	0.5	...	...
1250	875	Pochins	1250	...	24.0	2.6	9.2
201	138	Powering	146	...	5.0	4.6	30.0
46	10	Quiligotti	15	...	1.5	...	...
749	491	RMC Gp	599	+ 7	19.3	4.3	13.9
150	93	Raine Ind	125	...	6.0	6.4	11.5
76	50	Ramus	64	...	0.1	0.2	...
658	416	Redland	467	+ 4	...	7.1	13.5
79	61	Rodel	64	...	4.3	9.0	6.8
213	135	Rugby Group	213	+ 8	6.4	4.0	15.7
62	23	Sandell	30	...	1.7	...	...
68	37	Sevild-Rvet	37	...	3.0	10.8	5.3
98	70	Sharpe & Fisher	80	+ 3	4.0	6.7	77.6
161	76	Sheffield Insl	78	...	5.4	9.2	7.4
110	53	Sheriff Hldgs	57	...	1.5	3.8	15.5
148	62	Shorco	6¼	+ 1	5.2	10.5	6.9
231	161	Smart (J)	231	+ 1	7.9	4.6	7.9
22	12½	Stanpin	13½	...	...	3.0	27.9
424	252	Steetley	383	+ 1	14.0	4.9	19.8
283	95	Tarmac	118	- 2	11.2	12.7	13.3
175	106	Tay Homes	155	...	5.3	4.6	6.2
289	105	Taylor Woodrw	108	...	9.5	11.7	10.2
725	508	Tilbury Dougls	538	- 2	33.0	8.2	8.0
41	28	Torex Hire	31	...	0.4	1.7	...
251	175	Travis Perkins	213	...	8.0	5.0	27.4
62	39	Try Group	55	...	6.0	14.5	6.0
33	22	Tudor	33	...	2.7	...	9.3
150	16	Turriff	27 #	...	4.2	20.9	...
10	3	Venture Plant	8½	...	...	...	...
123	66	Vibroplant	98	...	3.6	4.9	13.7
208	71	Ward Group	72	...	7.2	...	3.2
100	40	Ward Hldgs	45	...	0.5	1.5	...
428	368	Watts Blake	405	...	9.3	3.1	15.6
44	15	Wescol	15	...	...	...	...
190	97	Westbury	101	...	...	11.9	...
52	9	West Scaffold	13	+ 1	...	...	...
62	6	Wiggins	8	...	...	...	...
447	335½	Wilson Bowdn	442	+ 2	...	2.5	15.1
211	159	Wilson (C)	201	- 1	3.7	2.5	18.1
229	108	Wimpey G	128	+ 6	10.5	10.9	19.5
78	43	YRM	71 †	...	5.0	9.4	7.4

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
206	120	Allied Colloids	206	+ 1	3.5	2.3	19.8
481	301	Amersham	473	+ 1	11.8	3.3	23.7
41½	25	Anglo Utd	25¼	...	...	8.4	...
247	144½	BTP	225 †	...	...	8.2	13.7
£108½	7281	Bayer DM50	£103½	...	...	4.6	9.4
224	129	Blagden	200	...	9.5	6.3	11.1
160¼	115	Brent Chems	129	+ 1	...	7.6	14.2
128	42	Cabd Gp	93	...	...	3.4	...
171	94	Canning (W)	147	...	7.2	6.6	17.7
203	142	Croda	164	...	11.0	...	13.0
218	165	Ellis & Everard	195	...	7.0	4.8	15.0
18	10	Euro Colour	10	...	0.6	8.7	34.4
124	43	Evode	66	...	3.5	7.2	...
383	202	Halstead (J)	370	...	11.2	4.1	10.2
207	95	Hickson	204	- 1	8.0	5.2	19.6
9325	6793	Hoechst	8950	...	...	6.8	...
1381	845	ICI	1307	- 7	55.0	5.6	23.5
631	435	Laporte	606	+ 1	17.8	3.9	14.6
351	234	Leigh	301	- 1	7.6	3.4	18.0
290	136	MTM	286	...	5.1	2.4	16.9
1818	1162	Norsk Hydro	1200	...	...	2.6	∞
400	312	Peterson Zoch	400	...	10.4	3.5	12.3
395	308	-do- 'A'	394	...	10.4	3.5	12.1
268	111	Plysu	262	...	4.5	2.3	20.9
138¾	70¼	Porvair	130 †	...	...	3.4	∞
417	203	Rentokil	400	+ 1	3.3	1.1	32.7
17	8	Sutcliffe Speak	8	...	...	...	...
364	204	Wardle Storeys	331	...	16.0	6.4	15.3
20	10	Wentworth	10	...	0.1	1.3	...
300	215	Wolstenholme R	298	...	...	7.3	13.1
652	327	Yorks Chem	621 †	- 4	14.5	3.1	∞
242	89	Yule Catto	234	...	4.7	2.7	15.4

DRAPERY, STORES

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
142	20	Alan Paul	20 #	...	...	22.7	1.4
445	267	Alexon	372	+ 4	...	6.2	7.7
129	58¾	Amber Day	80	- 3	2.7	4.5	11.1
339	239	Argos Plc	299	+ 7	6.0	2.7	19.7
106	52	Ashley (Laura)	91	...	0.1	0.1	...
338	250	Asprey	258	...	4.8	2.5	14.3

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
18	10	Oceonics	16	...	...	...	15.1
279	205	Oxford Inst	241	+ 2	4.1	2.3	15.6
195	87	P-E Internl	87	- 3	6.2	9.5	6.9
147	39	P & P	41	...	4.3	15.1	∞
71	43	Peck	53	...	3.4	8.6	12.9
201	145	Pegasus	159	- 1	12.1	10.1	7.3
8500	6300	Philips Fin 4%	8500	...	...	6.8	...
£978	587	-do- Lmp nv	1000	...	...	...	...
365	227	Pilkn	311	- 3	7.7	3.3	9.7
357	194	-do- 'A' Voting	290	- 1	7.7	3.6	9.0
71	48	Plessey	51	...	3.6	...	47.0
111	63	Pressac	78	...	2.4	4.1	12.5
180	40	Psion	143	...	2.4	2.2	...
60	45	Racal Elect	55½	+ ½	...	2.4	6.0
58	32	Radius	32	...	2.7	11.3	6.5
123	45	Real Time	83	...	3.0	4.8	8.7
53	11	Rivo	11	...	...	...	6.2
450	180	Sage Gp	449	+ 1	8.0	2.4	17.2
90	41	Scantronic	45	...	2.9	8.8	45.9
135	78	Schroder Grp	124	...	5.0	5.4	13.5
499	179	Sema Gp	234	+20	2.5	1.4	21.9
205	85	Sherwd Cmpt	195	+ 2	5.2	3.6	9.7
42	30	Soundtracs	40	...	2.2	7.3	∞
21	7	Sunleigh Elect	9	...	...	...	...
2850	1550	TDK	1981	...	...	1.0	17.0

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1037	518	Barlow Rand	856	...	...	4.0	12.0
113	33	Barnes (H)	34	...	2.0	7.8	78.6
69	32½	Baynes (Charles)	61	...	...	2.6	16.9
149	18	Beauford	18	...	6.0	...	1.2
48	13	Beckenham	14	...	3.0	...	3.3
30	23	Bedford (W)	28	...	...	...	...
557	292	Bespak	521	...	9.0	2.4	23.0
187	106	Bibby (J)	186	...	9.7	7.0	9.4
100	80	Billam (J)	84	...	4.0	6.4	7.1
92	28	Bilston Batters	28	...	3.0	...	78.7
86	37	Birmec Ind	70½	- ½	...	2.8	13.6
41	23	Black Arrow	27	...	2.1	10.4	9.1
5	1	Black & Edgntn	1½	...	...	...	0.2
140	108	Black (Peter)	130	...	2.8	2.9	16.0
66	26	Blundell Toys	57	...	...	...	...
376	211	Bodycote	376	+ 2	8.7	3.1	13.8
473	304	Boots	466	+ 7	11.6	3.3	18.8
92	69	Booth Inds	77	...	3.2	5.5	5.1
40	22	Bousted	27½	...	1.6	...	7.7
757	432	Bowater	757	+ 6	21.0	3.7	15.1
1839	1042	Bowater Inc	1518	-14	...	...	...
302	130	Bowmore Intl	302	...	6.4	2.8	14.3
19	11	Brammer	15½	...	0.5	4.4	29.3
246	169	Brammer	213	...	13.0	8.1	15.0
45	25½	Bridgend Gp	25½	- ½	1.2	6.3	10.3

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
426	262	Proudfoot Alex	394	+ 1	19.0	6.4	8.5
7½	4¼	RMT Gp	4¼#	...	...	...	...
130	28	RPS Group	29	...	3.2	14.7	3.1
110	70	Radiant Metal	100	...	...	...	...
79	45	Ramco Oil	57	...	2.0	4.7	21.1
779	548	Rank Org	669 †	...	31.0	6.2	19.0
111	28	Ransomes	32	...	6.1	...	...
741	485½	Reckitt Colm	683	+ 4	13.6	2.7	15.7
14¼	5	Renor	5¼	...	0.1	2.5	9.4
76	34	Reed Executive	68	+ 1	0.6	...	...
289	147	Reliance Sec	241	...	8.4	4.6	13.1
149	117	Relyon	149	...	4.9	4.4	15.4
325	222	Renishaw	253	...	6.0	3.2	15.6
78	47	Renold	49	...	3.7	...	11.9
25	10	Resurgence	10	...	...	...	...
1169	673	Reuters	1154	- 1	17.0	2.0	∞
34½	25	Rexmore	29	...	2.2	10.3	7.2
121	90	Ricardo Inl	93	...	5.7	8.2	9.0
95	66	Richard (Leics)	75	- 2	4.4	7.8	6.2
60	31	Richardson Wes	52	...	2.7	7.1	9.8
51	7	Robinson (T)	27	...	4.0	...	5.6
205	143	Rolfe & Nolan	205	...	5.6	3.6	11.5
142	115	Rotork	120	+ 1	8.2	9.2	8.8
136	106	-do- 'A'	111	+ 1	8.2	9.9	8.1
60	22½	Ross Gp	46	...	...	0.4	...
314	166	Rotork	310	...	9.0	3.9	18.1

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
233	164	Merchants	199	...	...	6.5	19.6
3993	1006	Merrill Lynch	3093 †	-56	...	...	...
375	268	Monks Inv Tst	341	+ 2	6.7	2.6	45.6
101	84	Morg Gren Inc	84	...	...	...	...
29	17	Do Warrants	17	...	...	...	...
266	195	Murray Income	245	...	...	5.8	23.9
247	176	-do- Ind	240	...	...	6.1	21.4
257	181½	-do- Small	253	...	3.7	2.0	50.8
247	176	-do- Vent	235	- 1	10.3	5.8	20.0
56	42	New Frontier	56	...	0.2	0.6	66.8
8050	6950	-do- 6½% Ln	7750 †	...	...	8.4	...
121	95½	Nwthrop Inc	97	...	8.0	11.2	11.9
249	183	O'seas Inv Tst	240	+ 1	2.5	1.4	73.1
234	133	Pacific Assets	234	+ 2	...	0.5	...
10½	2	Parsuda Gp	2½#	...	...	...	...
68	34	Personal Assets	62	+ ½	...	3.3	40.6
105	84	RIT Cap Ptnr	90	+ 2	2.4	3.6	20.7
122	98	River & Merc	104 †	...	...	11.8	11.8
310	253	Robeco	300	...	...	3.5	...
310	236	Rolinco	300	...	...	1.8	...
242	189	St Andrew Inv	220	...	7.5	4.7	∞
174	134	Scottish	167½	+ 1	4.4	3.5	37.1
119½	92½	Scot American	116 †	+ 2	...	4.9	∞
63	46	-do- Eastern	58¼	+ 1	1.4	3.3	∞
95	63	Scot Merc 'A'	86	...	2.8	4.4	29.5
162	114	-do- Mtge	147	+ 2	3.7	3.4	33.3
56	46½	-do- Value	55	...	...	3.0	∞
1255	882	Second Allnce	1188 †	+10	35.0	3.9	33.0
76	57½	Scts Tst of Scot	69¼	+ ½	3.1	5.9	22.5
102	71	Selective Asset	99 †	...	0.8	1.2	70.8
33	17	Sphere Inv	17	...	3.8	30.4	5.1
94	56	TR Far East	87 †	...	4.2	6.4	18.6
121¼	90	TR City Of Lon	106½	+ ½	4.5	5.7	23.0
92	49	TR Pacific	81½	...	...	0.4	∞
37	23½	TR Property	24	...	1.4	8.1	23.0
52	20	TR Tech Inv	36	...	...	6.8	9.4
155	98	TR Stshr Cos	134	+ ½	3.7	3.7	31.0
278	210	Temple Bar	243 †	+ 1	13.0	7.1	∞
72	55	Thmtn Asian E	61	...	0.5	1.1	...
64	45	Throgmorton	50½	+ ½	2.3	6.1	∞
378	260	Throg Dual Cp	333	...	...	...	...
256	189	Tribune	237 †	+ 1	6.2	3.5	∞
165	133	USDC Invest	158	+ ½	4.2	3.6	32.7
74	56	Value Inc Tst	65	...	...	6.6	15.8
577	478	Whitbread Inv	575	+ 2	13.9	3.2	40.9
167	125	Witan	158	+ 1	5.3	4.5	27.9

LEISURE

Portfolio PLATINUM

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DAILY DIVIDEND

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Claims required for +46 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
310	188	Presidio	188	...	...	3.0	...
493	313	Ranger	408	- 5	...	1.2	...
4912	3731	Royal Dtch Pt	4350	...	...	5.8	∞
4262	2937	Schlumberger	3225 †	...	...	2.1	..
546	419	Shell	448 †	+ 6	20.9	6.2	∞
5	2	Target Res	4	...	...	...	...
34	13	Teredo	15	...	...	...	...
114	52	Triton Europe	53	...	...	...	12.0
358	227	Ultramar	231	- 2	10.5	6.1	16.8
197	102	Woodside	169	+ 3	...	1.1	55.4
7	1¼	XCL Sunrise	3¼	...	...	...	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
148	76	API	143	...	...	7.0	41.5
21	11	ATA Selection	13	...	1.0	10.3	...
292	168	Arjo Wiggins	242	- 2	8.3	4.6	11.4
388	175	Abbott Mead	388	+ 1	7.8	2.7	16.0
9	1¼	Aris Group	2¼	...	0.4	...	...
15¼	10	Addison Cons	14½#	...	...	1.4	∞
244	100	Aegis Gp	105	...	5.8	7.4	4.1
177	85	Aspen Comm	153	...	8.1	7.1	12.5
25	10	BBB Design	10	...	...	...	...
116	76	BNB Res	92	- 3	4.6	6.7	8.6
210	110	Bemrose	185	...	11.7	8.5	8.4
78	29	Birkdale	47	...	...	...	...
108	54	Bunzl	82	...	5.9	...	14.3
164	83	CIA Gp	155	...	3.2	2.8	12.0
58	35	City of Lon	46	...	3.0	9.0	10.3

PROPERTY

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TEXTILES

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TRANSPORT

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
190	100	Hays	187	...	4.0	2.9	18.9
52	24	Jacobs (J)	27	- 1	2.9	...	6.8
167	7	Lep	9	...	7.0	...	1.1
2200	1450	Manchstr Sh	1450 †	...	4.5	0.4	5.9
226	158	Mersey Docks	207	+ 6	6.0	3.9	∞
247	116	NFC	234	+ 2	6.2	3.6	18.8
383	277	Ocean Group	344	+ 2	...	5.5	14.0
90	30	Ocean Wilson	47	...	2.7	7.8	4.5
595½	375	P & O Dfd	389	+ 1	30.5	10.5	12.9
118	87	P & O 5%	99	...	...	7.4	...
351	259	Powell Duffryn	276	+ 3	22.6	10.9	12.5
112	84	Seacon	97 †	...	4.2	5.8	8.1
89	38	TIP Europe	54	...	...	4.5	10.1
86	32	TNT	84½	+ 3	...	3.5	10.5
551	293	Tibbet & Britn	544	...	9.2	2.3	25.0
587	295	Tiphook	382	+18	13.8	4.8	5.7
283	206	Transport Dev	270	+ 1	9.5	4.7	15.5
125	85	Turnbull Scot	90	...	...	...	...

WATER

1991/92 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
409	322	Anglian Water	372	+ 6	17.5	6.3	7.7
406	327	Northumbrian	400	+10	18.6	6.2	5.1
395	322	North West	376	+ 7	18.0	6.4	6.6
370	296	Severn Trent	345	+ 6	17.5	6.8	5.3
397	293	Sthrn Water	340	+ 8	17.7	6.9	5.7
392	302	South West	362	+ 6	20.0	7.4	5.5
397	323	Thames Water	380	+ 3	17.5	6.1	7.8
422	341	Welsh Water	395	+10	19.5	6.6	4.8
456	325	Wessex Water	419	+ 7	17.7	5.6	6.6
431	335	Yorkshire W	393	+10	17.7	6.0	7.1

Source: Fitzrom

◆ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ↓ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

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SHORTS (under 5 years)

1991/2 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
98 11/32	91 5/16	Treas 3% 1992	98 11/32	...	3.05	8.27
99 11/16	95 11/16	Treas 8% 1992	99 [illegible]	...	8.03	9.63
100 [illegible]	98 1/2	Treas 10¼% 1992	100 1/16	...	10.49	9.92
102 [illegible]	100 1/2	Exch 12¼% 1992	101 [illegible] †	...	12.11	9.75
104 1/4	101 [illegible]	Exch 13½% 1992	102 [illegible] †	...	13.23	9.73
96 [illegible]	89 1/2	Fund 6% 1993	96 [illegible] †	...	6.23	8.58
98 [illegible]	94	Treas 8¼% 1993	98 [illegible]	...	8.34	9.35
100 1/4	97 [illegible]	Treas 10% 1993	100 1/4	...	9.95	9.49
104 1/4	102 1/4	Treas 12½% 1993	103 3/4	...	12.05	9.52
108 [illegible]	105 1/4	Treas 13¾% 1993	106 [illegible]	...	12.90	9.50
98 1/2	92 [illegible]	Treas 8½% 1994	98 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.63	9.37
99 [illegible]	93 1/4	Treas 9% 1994	99 [illegible]	...	9.09	9.35
101 [illegible]	96 [illegible]	Treas 10% 1994	101 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.89	9.42
107 1/4	103 1/2	Exch 12½% 1994	106 1/4	...	11.75	9.55
109	105 [illegible]	Exch 13½% 1994	107 1/2	...	12.56	9.54
111 1/4	108 [illegible]	Treas 14½% 1994	108 [illegible] †	...	13.32	9.54
89	82 1/4	Gas 3% 1990-95	89	...	3.37	6.89
102 [illegible]	98 [illegible]	Exch 10¼% 1995	102 1/4	+ [illegible]	10.02	9.46
106 [illegible]	102 [illegible]	Treas 12% 1995	106 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	11.30	9.49
110 [illegible]	105 1/4	Treas 12¾% 1995	109 [illegible]	...	11.60	9.47

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1991/2 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
99 1/4	92 [illegible]	Treas 9% 1992-96	99 1/4 †	+ [illegible]	9.01	9.01
102 1/4	95 [illegible]	Conv 10% 1996	102 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.79	9.37
112 [illegible]	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	112 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	11.80	9.59
114 [illegible]	109 [illegible]	Treas 14% 1996	113 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	12.32	9.69
119 [illegible]	115 [illegible]	Treas 15¼% 1996	118 1/4	+ [illegible]	12.84	9.65
97 [illegible]	89 [illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	97 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.95	9.25
104 [illegible]	97 1/4	Exch 10½% 1997	104 1/4	+ [illegible]	10.06	9.35
114 [illegible]	108 [illegible]	Treas 13¼% 1997	114 1/4	+ 1/4	11.61	9.54
123 [illegible]	117	Exch 15% 1997	122 1/4	+ [illegible]	12.23	9.67
90	80 1/4	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	90	+ [illegible]	7.50	8.85
101 1/4	93 [illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	101 1/4	+ 1/4	9.58	9.32
112 1/4	104 1/2	Exch 12% 1998	112 1/4	+ [illegible]	10.68	9.44
128 1/4	121 1/4	Treas 15½% 1998	128 1/2 †	+ [illegible]	12.06	9.55
101 1/4	92 [illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	101 1/4	+ [illegible]	9.36	9.17
104 [illegible]	95 [illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	104 [illegible]	+ 1/4	9.78	9.34
105 [illegible]	97 [illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	105 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.92	9.35
114 1/4	105 [illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	114 1/4 †	+ 1/4	10.73	9.45
99	89 1/4	Conv 9% 2000	99 †	+ [illegible]	9.09	9.17
119 [illegible]	110 1/2	Treas 13% 2000	119 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	10.86	9.52
104 [illegible]	94 1/2	Treas 10% 2001	104 [illegible] †	+ 1/4	9.60	9.28
119 [illegible]	113 [illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	119 [illegible]	+ 1/4	11.67	9.64
103 [illegible]	92 [illegible]	Treas 9¾% 2002	103 1/4	+ 1/4	9.45	9.25
105 [illegible]	94 [illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	105 [illegible] †	+ 1/2	9.50	9.23
63 1/4	53 [illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	63 1/4	+ [illegible]	5.54	8.32
101 [illegible]	90 [illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	101 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.32	9.22
111 [illegible]	102	Treas 11½% 2001-04	111 [illegible]	+ 1/4	10.27	9.48
102 1/4	90 [illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	102 1/4	+ [illegible]	9.30	9.20
122 1/4	111	Treas 12½% 2003-05	122 1/4	+ [illegible]	10.19	9.27

LONGS (over 15 years)

1991/2 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
90 1/4	79 11/16	Treas 8% 2002-06	90 1/4	+ 1/2	8.85	9.20
94 [illegible]	84 1/4	Treas 8½% 2007	94 [illegible]	+ 1/4	8.95	9.11
116 [illegible]	105 [illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	116 [illegible]	+ 1/2	10.07	9.27
99 [illegible]	88 [illegible]	Treas 9% 2008	99 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.06	9.07
130 [illegible]	118 [illegible]	Treas 13½% 2004-08	130 [illegible] †	+ 1/2	10.36	9.27
90 [illegible]	80	Treas 8% 2009	90 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.82	9.07
99 1/4	88 [illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	99 1/4	+ [illegible]	9.06	9.06
67 1/4	58 [illegible]	Treas 5½% 2008-12	67 1/4 †	+ 1/4	8.18	9.03
87 [illegible]	76 [illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	87 [illegible]	+ 1/4	8.90	9.09
127 [illegible]	113 [illegible]	Exch 12% 2013-17	127 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.45	9.10

UNDATED

1991/2 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
26 [illegible]	23 1/4	Consols 2½%	26 [illegible]	+ 1/4	9.36	...
26 1/2	23 [illegible]	Treas 2½%	26 [illegible] †	+ 1/4	9.46	...
31 1/2	28 1/4	Treas 3%	31 1/2	+ 1/4	9.54	...
61 [illegible]	57 1/4	Conv 3½%	61 [illegible] †	+ [illegible]	5.71	...
42 1/4	37 [illegible]	Consols 4%	42 1/4	+ [illegible]	9.47	...
38	33 [illegible]	War Ln 3½%	38	+ [illegible]	9.21	...

INDEX-LINKED

1991/2 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
136 [illegible]	125 [illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1992	136 [illegible] †			
124 [illegible]	115 [illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1994	124 1/4	+ [illegible]	2.17	3.30
180 [illegible]	168 [illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1996	180 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	3.11	3.72
146 1/4	137 [illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2001	146 1/4 †	+ [illegible]	3.81	4.14
142 [illegible]	133	Treas IL 2½% 2003	142 [illegible]	+ 1/4	3.93	4.21
144	135	Treas IL 2% 2006	143 1/4	+ [illegible]	4.07	4.29
131 1/2	124 [illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2009	130 1/4	+ 1/4	4.12	4.31
135 [illegible]	128 [illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	134 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	4.13	4.32
111 [illegible]	105 [illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	110 1/4	+ 1/4	4.14	4.30
118 [illegible]	113 [illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	117 [illegible]	+ [illegible]	4.13	4.29
113 [illegible]	109 [illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	113 [illegible]	+ 1/4	4.13	4.27
95 1/4	90 [illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2024	93 1/4	+ 1/4	4.12	4.25

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ACCOUNTANCY TIMES

Debate rages over audit and consultancy links

Marriage of convenience for services

BY EDWARD FENNELL

The debate about whether accountants should also provide management consultancy services is not new, but it has seldom been hotter. At the heart of it lie three distinct issues — professional integrity, the needs of the client, and the business ambitions of the main firms — which need to be reconciled if the status quo is to be sustained.

Paradoxically, it has been the success of the Big Six that provides the background to the current wrangle. Their growth has been fuelled by the expansion, some might say imperialism, of their management consultancy services. Hugh Aldous, managing partner of Robson Rhodes, a smaller firm, is deeply suspicious of this development. "The race of the Big Six to get ever bigger is a self-indictment," he said. "Their instinct to Hoover up every assignment flies in the face of professional independence. There is a deep complacency in some parts of the accounting profession about ethics. People say everything is OK. Well, everything is manifestly not OK. Professional ethics are currently under severe pressure."

> 'There is a deep complacency in some parts of the accounting profession about ethics'

Such a radical opinion coming from outside the Big Six tends to grate on the sensibilities of those who are currently steering the largest firms through difficult times. Colin Sharman and Bob Simm, respectively KPMG Peat Marwick senior partners of accountancy and management consultancy, said they resent what they regard as "misguided criticism" of the accountancy and management consultancy link-ups. The development of the management consultancy services has been urged by clients. "Clients have driven us this way," Mr Sharman said.

The argument is simple. The conduct of an audit gives the firm a deep knowledge of the client, which enables it to provide well-informed, effective advice. Rather than starting from scratch, by briefing new people, it makes sense to build on that established relationship. It is because KPMG perceives that "this is what the client wants" that it now provides an integrated services team. This aims to offer coherent advice coordinated through a "lead partner" who oversees all the dealings with that client. On top of that, according to Mr Simm, KPMG is becoming increasingly aware of the new business "issues", the environment, Europe, pensions reform and so on, which are coming over the horizon. Rather than waiting passively for them to erupt on their clients' doorsteps, KPMG aims to alert clients to their arrival and then "roll in the services on the back of that".

Underlying this pro-active marketing drive is a sense of urgency that is running through all the Big Six. Concern over market share inspired the recent round of mergers, and senior management have clear business targets to meet.

Whether these targets are compatible with professional ethics will continue to be a key issue.

Mr Aldous argues that where a client buys both audit and consultancy services from the same firm he can use the threat of withdrawal of the consultancy business as a lever to achieve the audit results he wants.

Brian Pomeroy, head of management consultancy at Touche Ross, disagrees. He maintains that no such dangers are likely. "I've never felt these conflicts arise," he said. Only a minority of work comes from audit clients and, to a large extent, the management consultancy business at Touche has a dynamic of its own.

The business logic of combining consultancy with accountancy is that the skills developed to serve audit clients can also be put to good use elsewhere. Because so many consultancy clients are non-audit, this preserves the objectivity of the auditors.

Roy Chapman, managing partner of Arthur Andersen (UK and Ireland), is confident about the continuing robustness of professional ethics. "It's a state of mind," he said, "which an auditor would impair at his peril."

Not long ago, Arthur Andersen separated out as distinct "strategic business unit" its own mainly information technology-led consultancy operation from its accounting services. This was for "efficiency and a better market focus", according to Mr Chapman, although industry watchers suspect that there was also considerable internal politics involved.

What concerns Mr Chapman now, however, is that "bureaucratic regulation based on other, less advanced economies", might threaten the relationship between the two wings of the firm. There is growing unease that Brussels bureaucrats might want to bring Britain into line with other member states of the European Community and ban the type of integrated services that the Big Six have spearheaded so successfully in Britain. While the government backs the current situation, it might, Mr Chapman said, "be negotiated away in return for some other area of concern".

What also lies ahead is the variety of legal cases still hanging over the heads of the main firms. It is not inconceivable that, at the end of the day, the management consultants might decide it is too risky being linked to accountants. For them to leave or break away, taking the former audit clients with them, would be the final irony to this marriage of convenience.

PETER TRIEVNOR

Building on established relationships: Bob Simm, of KPMG Peat Marwick

Scots ICA tackles problem of blame

BACK in 1979, the last time the topic of corporate governance was fashionable, Lord Caldecote made his memorable observation: "The trouble with British companies is that the directors mark their own examination papers." That was true then and it is true now.

However, it is equally true now that a head of steam has built up to change the culture of corporate governance in this country. One example is the Cadbury committee, which will provide proposals on the main issues in May.

In the meantime, a working party of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, set up in the pre-Cadbury days, has just reported on "Corporate Governance — Directors' Responsibilities for Financial Statements".

In the current debate, it makes an extremely useful contribution and tackles the Caldecote point head-on. What the working party set out to do was provide thoughts and recommendations on the three areas of directors' responsibilities for financial statements, internal control systems and audit committees. Probably the key point about the working party was that it was headed by the ubiquitous Nigel Macdonald of Ernst & Young. As well as being the institute's senior vice-president, he is also on the Cadbury committee, the Auditing Practices Board and the review panel of the Financial Reporting Council. The result is that the message that directors have serious responsibilities to fulfil is being fed into the debate at many different levels. This report is already part of the Cadbury approach and its line of thought is expected to be mirrored in the final report.

AUDIT

ROBERT BRUCE

The report also tackles the hidden battle between auditors and directors over who should take the blame for everything from minor hiccups to major disasters. For years, the auditors, being the only people with insurance, and therefore, deep pockets, have been sued after a company collapses.

As a result, company directors have been happy to allow the popular belief to flourish that auditors are generally to blame for anything that goes wrong rather than the board of directors that actually ran the company.

There are anecdotal examples that support both sides of this argument. There is little doubt, however, that the pendulum of perceived responsibility has swung far too far from the directors.

So, this report advocates pushing it back. There are two points here. First, it wants a statement from the directors, which would make their legal responsibilities plain. This would be printed beside the auditors' report and would be flagged in the full directors' report. This would ensure that the truth and fairness of the statement came under the watchful eye of the auditors.

But the wording the report suggests as a guide is legalistic and far from being as direct as the average shareholder needs. The report also prints some examples of how this system works in other countries. The vigorous opening of one of the American examples hits the mark. It says: "Management is responsible for the preparation and integrity of the company's financial statements." There is a solid feel of the unequivocal about that.

Perhaps more important is the suggestion in the report that it might be a salutary lesson for directors to have to positively satisfy themselves that the company they are running is a going concern.

At present, the law says that the accounts should be based on that presumption unless the directors know it to be false. The report takes a more positive stance. "We recommend," it says, "that directors should be required to take such steps as are necessary to satisfy themselves that it is reasonable to assume that the company will continue as a going concern, or to make appropriate disclosure." Properly explained to the board by its legal adviser, such a proposal ought to cause more than a few knees to knock. The problems with all this and also with the proposals on greater enforcement and disclosure of internal control systems and the expansion and toughening of the roles of audit committees, which the report advocates, is that it is hard to see it coming to pass. Company directors dislike controls. Governments dislike company legislation. Add to that, for example, the obvious shortage of tough and wily characters who could serve effectively on audit committees and you find you have come up with a solution that runs into severe practical difficulties.

What a report like this has to rely on is that its proposals on directors' responsibilities are easy to implement and are simple and direct in their effect. When general elections are out of the way and Cadbury has reported, it will be important to enshrine as much as possible of the proposals for change in legislation.

The report is also another example in the long line of thought-provoking and practical research to come out of the Scots ICA. In many ways it is to the institute's advantage that it is not the biggest of the UK's many accountancy bodies. It suffers no pressure to be all-singing and all-dancing. It can choose its targets carefully and thoughtfully — and then hit them. When the institute holds its annual dinner tomorrow night it can be proud of that.

● *The author is Associate Editor of* Accountancy Age.

Big Six fight for middle ground

CAN the Big Six maintain their dominance of the accountancy market or is their destiny to be like IBM, overhauled by smaller rivals?

The mergers (both successful and aborted) of the late Eighties showed that the massive multinationals are having to review constantly their positioning, and while there is now talk of further mergers among the largest firms, that may not necessarily suit the full gamut of their clients.

The obvious battlefield between the Big Six and their rivals is the middle ground, medium-sized client, with its smaller plcs and owner-managed enterprises. The tendency during the Eighties was for these to gravitate towards market leaders. But the prolonged recession may thwart that trend.

As medium-sized clients look for cheaper audits, the smaller accountancy firms are presented with an opportunity to nip in and offer a similar quality of service, but free of the frills and overheads that accompany larger practices.

In particular, there is an opportunity here for those many accountants who have trained with the Big Six but left in recent years to join or set up smaller practices. Benefiting from the training of their alma mater, they can reassure former clients of the Big Six that they will receive the level of service to which they are accustomed, but for a lesser fee.

David Lee is a partner with Ross Smith, a small firm in Newbury, Berkshire. He, his partners, and their managers all have Big Six credentials (Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, Ernst & Young, or Arthur Andersen) and although he was unreserved in his praise for the quality of work done by the top firms, he said many of the smaller clients were looking for benefits that large firms may now find hard to provide.

Mr Lee said: "We are currently picking up clients who are leaving the Big Six for a variety of reasons. Perhaps the most frequently cited reason is the lack of continuity in staffing. The constant changeover in the people who actually do the audit is a source of irritation to the medium-sized client. Also, there is the question of price. "There is no question that we provide a cheaper service and the clients get far more partner-involvement for their money."

John Heywood, who runs the London office of Price Waterhouse, does not share that analysis. In particular, he dismisses the concern over fees. "Where our hourly rates are more expensive than smaller firms it often means we are more cost-effective," he said.

On partner accessibility, he contends there is now a corporate culture, at least in Price Waterhouse, to ensure partners spend more time with clients. But the Big Six's real strength stems from size and status. "There is no question that we are one big step ahead of the smaller firms in terms of the quality of people we have," Mr Heywood said. "We have the ability to deploy world class specialists on narrow areas and we have industry sector expertise which is unrivalled. And, of course, we have the worldwide network for our international clients."

Even Mr Heywood concedes, however, that if the client is satisfied with the service of a smaller accountant there may be no sense in switching. The real issue lies in determining at what point it becomes a necessity to have access to the resources of one of the Big Six.

Grant Thornton, for example, is clear its marketplace is the "growing owner-managed company". Its services are geared, and staff trained, specifically to meet the needs and demands of clients in that category. It has no qualms about acknowledging some clients will outgrow what it has to offer.

Anne Baldwin, of Grant Thornton, added: "It's very important to have a clear idea of one's marketplace. By stretching themselves over such a wide range of types of client I sometimes wonder whether some of the other national and international accountants are really clear about where their market lies."

EDWARD FENNELL

Award for Sainsbury

RETAIL is detail, so they say, and it was attention to the minutiae that won J Sainsbury, the supermarkets chain, the Annual Award for Published Accounts — large company category — at the Guildhall yesterday. The awards are made by the Institutes of Chartered Accountants and the London Stock Exchange and they represent an important gesture towards popular capitalism by encouraging companies to make their annual accounts as accessible as possible to the non-specialist. Unfortunately, there aren't many sets of accounts these days that make particularly pleasant or cheerful reading. The clearer they are, the more fraught the experience. That is probably why no award has been made this year in the small company category. The institute in England and Wales said: "All the entries were much of a muchness, there was nothing outstanding." This is another case, it would seem, of disappointment on the bottom line.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Budget tips

YOU pays your fees and you takes your choice. Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte's annual racecard of Budget tips, offering odds from 4-1 on, for no change in the higher rate of income tax, to 100-1 against, for the abolition of inheritance tax, displays more caution than at Price Waterhouse, which had earlier offered its top ten tips for budget changes. Apart from no change, which takes most of the top slots, Coopers' favourites are for personal allowances to rise more than 4.5 per cent and, even more prosaically, for changes to group relief rules and capital allowances in enterprise zones. PW's shortlist is more daring, headed by a new 20 per cent lower income tax band and allowances to be transferable between husband and wife. It also features novelties such as tax relief on public transport to work, abolition of the road fund licence and a rise in the inheritance tax threshold to £500,000. Accountants will certainly be busier on Budget night if PW is right — and wishful thinking stands a better chance of becoming reality during an election campaign.

Low profile

KATHLEEN O'Donovan, who moved from the BTR audit team at Ernst & Young last year to become finance director of the top twenty manufacturing conglomerate, has, not surprisingly, been placed on the shortlist for the Veuve Clicquot businesswoman of the year award. Winning might not entirely please her, however. Miss O'Donovan may have changed the image of top company finance directors singlehandedly, but under the stern eye of fellow chartered accountant Sir Owen Green, BTR's chairman, she aims to maintain a low profile outside the company.

Charter chat

AUSTIN Mitchell, Labour's backbench scourge of accountants, seems intent on maintaining his far from private correspondence with the prime minister over the evils of the auditing profession — right up to election day. However, the Grimsby MP, whose broadsides seem to have stiffened Labour's attachment to a statutory regulator for auditors, independent of the profession, is not quite up to date. His latest cannonball shows that he still believes the vice-president of the institute is not elected. But Mitchell's fish-nourished brain is still throwing up new ideas. His next missive to No 10, he claims, will include an offer to draft an audit clients' charter.

Ryder Cup transforms a golfer's ambition

Feherty is ready to go in search of a silver lining

BY MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

TO MOST aspiring golfers, winning the Open Championship is the ultimate in the game but it is only now, after 16 years as a professional, that David Feherty regards it as an ambition.

"It took me the best part of those 16 years to get into the Ryder Cup and playing against the Americans last year changed my philosophy," Feherty, aged 33, said. "In the past if you offered me a million pounds or the Open title then I would have taken the money. Today, I would take the Open."

Feherty can point to the moment a piece of silverware became more important to him than the number of noughts at the end of his bank statement. It came at the 14th hole in the afternoon four-balls on the first day at Kiawah Island.

"I hit a metal wood, a magnificent shot if I say so myself, to eight feet behind the hole and made the putt for a two," Feherty said. "I was totally drained walking to the next tee and I thought to myself: 'We're not even playing for any money here, which is supposed to be why I play golf, and here I am, totally and physically exhausted'."

"The point is, there is nothing like the Ryder Cup for bringing things home. I want to play in every one until I die. Money? It's still important because it's why I first came out here. But the Ryder Cup did something for me that I didn't think was possible. It renewed my enthusiasm for playing the game for the game's sake."

Feherty has emphasised that with a fine start to the season, which includes winning in South Africa and finishing joint third and joint fourth in the Dubai Desert Classic and the Australian Masters. It is why he is a favourite to win the Mediterranean Open, which starts at El Bosque, Valencia, today.

Feherty: new outlook

Yet only five years ago not even his razor-sharp humour, for which he is renowned, could camouflage his worries. "I was working extremely hard and getting nothing for it," he said. "You go through all sorts of stages where you get bitter and twisted.

"I see it in other players now and I see it in myself from time to time. Then the warning bells go off. Why me? The head goes down and all the rest. Well the answer is because you're a fool for thinking that in the first place."

Feherty now has a positive outlook for which he gives credit to Alan Fine, a sports psychologist. "He forced me to grow up," Feherty said. "I have him to thank as well as Bob Torrance for teaching me to score well when playing badly, and Chris Mitchell, my manager."

Even so, he hopes a partnership with David Jones — together they have formed Handmade Design — will generate the kind of courses of which they can be proud. The company has projects under way in Ireland, Turkey and Cornwall.

"I think there is an aching void to be filled with golf courses that ordinary people can play but which are still challenging for the top players," Feherty said. "And I don't see anyone building them, with the possible exception of Gary Player."

Feherty wants to take advantage of being able to play more in the United States by virtue of finishing joint seventh in the US PGA Championship last year. "I'm really looking forward to the Masters at Augusta," he said. "I hope to play eight or nine tournaments in America, although the most satisfying thing is that I will tee up in all four majors.

"I'd certainly like to win one. But there is a balance between how good you want to be and how much you want to sacrifice to get there. I want to see my family, I want to have my friends and I want to get drunk every now and then. And I want to build golf courses.

"I'm not saying I don't want to be No. 1. But I really don't think that I can justify spending the amount of time it takes or, for that matter, being nasty to the amount of people it takes."

Olazábal aims to enjoy sweet spell

FROM MEL WEBB IN VALENCIA

THE two leading characters in the Mediterranean Open, which starts at El Bosque near here today, come to the tournament in vividly contrasting moods. José-María Olazábal thinks he might have to shoot 12 under par to win, and fancies his chances of doing it. Ian Woosnam, on the other hand, says his own game is in such poor shape that he is much more likely to be 12 over come Sunday.

To Olazábal first. He says that his confidence is high following his victory in the Tenerife Open last week. He described his golf there as just about perfect, and since he is not a man given to hyperbole, he must be pretty happy.

Woosnam, in contrasting fashion, is just about as annoyed with his form as it is possible to be.

It all stems, apparently, from his putting. His right hand is coming into the stroke too much, and he is pulling the ball to the left. The more he tries to straighten it, the worse it gets, and if the putting is wrong, everything else goes out of the window as well. He is not, it is fair to say, a happy man.

The Welshman is defending the title he has won in the two years it has been staged. If he were to win here, it would be the first time since the 1950s a European tournament has been won three years in succession by the same player. If Woosnam is to be believed, it is not likely to happen. We shall see.

Following the sun: Judy Simpson soaks up the atmosphere of the Australian Institute of Sport, where she did her winter training

The art of blending science and sport

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

To some, it is simply the "gold medal factory", the antithesis of the great Australian sporting tradition which holds that champions are born, not made. To others, it is the future of sport, the ultimate fusion of brain and brawn, of science and sport, the hottest sporting greenhouse in the world. Nothing concentrates the Australian sporting mind like the 160 acres of Canberra farmland that is home for the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

Established in 1981 by the government of Malcolm Fraser after Australia's goldless Olympics in Montreal five years earlier, the AIS has taken a long time to win public acceptance. Even now, a poor showing by the Australian Olympic team in Barcelona would be certain to provoke renewed outcries from the taxpayers, who fund the institute with £9 million a year.

On the other hand, should Simon Doyle, Australia's world-class 1,500 metres runner, the men's hockey team, or even the gymnastics team bring home the gold, the AIS can claim its elitist policy is working.

At the Commonwealth Games in Auckland, over half the Australian team were former or present institute athletes, and among them they won 49 medals, which prompted a cry of "good investment" from the then prime minister, Bob Hawke. Such praise is greeted with caution by the man with the most famous moustache in athletics. Rob De Castella is the fourth director of the AIS. As a biophysicist, he was involved in the project from when the science laboratory, now widely regarded as the most advanced in the world, was no more than a few beautifully carpeted empty rooms.

"I think we are now recognised internationally, but whether we like it or not, we will be judged by our performance in international competition and every athlete here has to be aware that he is spending the taxpayer's dollars," De Castella said.

The athletes are understandably sensitive to criticism of the AIS as nothing more than a welfare-state pleasuredome, but equally they understand the dangers of overprotection and overprovision. Each residential student has to do 15 hours a week studying or work experience; the rest is devoted to sport.

"It's far easier to train here than it is at home, and it's very inspiring having other athletes around you," Emma Gleeson, a netball scholar, said. "But it can be a very unrealistic world. We don't have to pay for anything and that can lead to a security which some need, others take advantage of. I think one year is about enough." Some, though, stay for six.

Wisely, the institute has tried to distance itself from the image of the "gold medal factory", with all its connotations of eastern bloc chemistry (borne out by allegations of drug-taking made by former institute athletes in 1987), and from the policy of centralisation that caused so much hostility and suspicion in the early days. Besides Canberra, the institute now uses Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Tasmania as residential centres for different sports. A series of satellite institutes, funded by state, not federal, government, is being set up in state capitals.

The philosophy of the AIS is evolving, too. "When we were first set up, nothing but the colour of the medal mattered," De Castella said. "Now it is much more of a cultural thing. We want our athletes to go back into the community and set standards and attitudes. Hard work, dedication, national pride, all the philosophical things governments like to promote. They should be setting examples and producing the next generation of athletes."

Recently, the institute started a programme of life skills to prepare elite athletes for such a missionary role. The change partly reflects the influence of the Australian Sports Commission, Australia's equivalent to the Sports Council, which was set up to co-ordinate a national policy for sport and to take control of the AIS.

It will be a sobering thought for Britain, the defending Olympic hockey champions, to know that by the time they take the field in Barcelona, the Australian team members will have been training together for the best part of six months, thanks to grants from the AIS. Four members of the triumphant rugby team — Phil Kearns, Jason Little, Tim Horan and John Eales — were institute students, but the whole squad benefited from the meticulous approach of the AIS. "We were highly committed to winning the World Cup for two years before," Jim Ferguson, the executive director of the ASC, said.

The institute has also had considerable success with its programme of talent identification, which selects athletes on the grounds of scientific tests, not previous experience. The four girls who won gold for Australia at the world junior rowing championships had never rowed before they were chosen for the programme.

"There is no doubt that you are on the cutting edge of sports science here," Judy Simpson, the British heptathlete, who spent three months at the AIS this winter, said. "The medical care is second to none and because all the facilities are on the spot, you can plan, execute and complete all your training in one place. It's a wonderful environment."

The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) opened in Canberra in 1981 with eight sports: basketball, gymnastics, netball, football, swimming, tennis, athletics and weightlifting. It now involves 18 sports based in five centres.

Facilities at the AIS site in Canberra include: national outdoor stadium (capacity 25,000), athletics field, a sports science and medicine laboratory, an Olympic swimming pool, a tennis complex, a national indoor sports centre (capacity 3,500), synthetic hockey and grass football pitches, a gymnastic centre, weight-training room and halls of residence.

The institute caters for 500 students a year, on scholarships or grants. Residential scholarships range from £6,000 to £10,000. In 1989 the institute came under the control of the Australian Sports Commission, with a budget of £9 million a year.

SPORTS LETTERS

Consistency needed in rugby refereeing

From Dr J. B. Evans

Sir, The home rugby unions should do all they can to help the French regain their composure after the events at Parc des Princes. The alternative is to cancel fixtures as happened in the 1930s.

An important way to help would be to have referees who speak French fluently, with an ability to converse rather than just to issue commands. Clive Norling and many other top referees talk to the players and this makes for understanding and helps to maintain the spirit of the game.

You reported (February 18) that a South African will referee France's last two internationals this season. It seems absurd to give any one country the same referee twice in consecutive matches. Should Mr Burger's southern hemisphere interpretation upset the French, it will not help that he will be refereeing them again a fortnight later.

Following the foul play with which Stephen Hilditch had to deal in the match against England, it would have been inflammatory for him to referee France again two weeks later. Let us hope that Mr Burger is not placed in a similar position.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. EVANS,
Orchard Hill,
Cross Oak Road,
Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire.

From le Comte de Sailly Candau

Sir, In this small village, we have no English newspapers, but I saw on television the rude things some English newspapers wrote about the match between France and England.

I agree our French team was unfair, nasty, hateful on that Saturday, but we say in French: don't look for a piece of straw in someone's eye when you have a log in yours.

Of course, our rugby players have been severely punished. I think they should not be allowed to play rugby for the rest of their lives. I myself played for 20 years, then became a referee. Refereeing is such an awful job in France, I preferred returning to a team and played with "veterans" until I was 50 years old.

I am quite ashamed after seeing what happened and I apologise for what they did. But there is no reason for some of you to be so rude. France is not responsible for two or three nasty boys!

Yours sincerely,
DE SAILLY CANDAU,
Mont Selaige,
71170 Saint Igny de Roche,
France.

From Mr Robert Cowan

Sir, Professor Clayton (January 30) expressed alarm about the increase in violence on the rugby field. He quoted a few case histories and the apparent indifference of the game's administrators.

We have at last had in Paris a referee who had the extreme courage to take unpleasant but necessary decisions. He seems to have had the support he deserves, even if somewhat grudgingly from the French.

Howls from some quarters about the disgrace to French rugby and the need to clean up their game are true enough, but miss the point that the malaise is not confined to the French, who just happen to suffer the effects of a long overdue reaction. There are players in other five nations teams in games this year who could well have been disciplined if desirable standards had been imposed.

It is to be hoped that Mr Hilditch has set an example that will be followed and supported, so that players in all countries and at all levels will know exactly what will follow if they descend to the practices that have recently marred the game.

Yours truly,
ROBERT COWAN,
Rake House,
Burton-in-Wirral,
Cheshire.

Bowls excluded

From Mr T. Seager

Sir, Following the Olympic Games in Spain this summer will be the Paralympics, where disabled athletes will compete with the same enthusiasm, dedication and application as their able-bodied counterparts in order to win medals for their country.

In every Paralympics to date, bowls has been included. This sport is one in which disabled competitors, especially those who are wheelchair bound, can compete on almost equal terms with the able-bodied. However, this time they have been excluded.

It may be that it was considered the cost involved in providing the facilities could not be justified, or perhaps representatives from countries where bowls is not a major sport decided the available money could be best spent in other ways. Whatever the reason, disabled bowlers from all over the world are to be denied the opportunity of bringing back the medals, after years of dedication, having already overcome mountains to gain access to greens in order to achieve the standard required to represent their country.

The British Wheelchair Bowls Association believes these sportsmen and women should be given that opportunity and has found that facilities already exist in Spain, with nearby wheelchair-accessible accommodation. We therefore propose to hold a wheelchair world bowls championships in Spain, in October. Its success will depend on the support we receive.

Yours faithfully
TERRY SEAGER,
5 The Avenue,
Sandy, Bedfordshire.

Downward incline

From Mr Peter Nuorto

Sir, I was bitterly disappointed with the Winter Olympics. Talk about downhill all the way.

The blue riband event of the summer Games, the 1,500 metres, takes place on the last day of track competition, but the winter Games started with the men's downhill. The magnificent three ski jumping events were also crammed into the first week.

I realise that the Games must end on time and that there are prevailing snow conditions, but what an anticlimax — unless the expected success of "The Red Machine" in ice hockey is your idea of heaven.

Yours faithfully,
P. NUORTO,
27 Beatrice Avenue,
Norbury, SW16.

Sound planning

From Mr Mark L. Shore

Sir, I was astonished by the reaction of your Football Correspondent, Stuart Jones, to the team picked by Graham Taylor to play France (reports, February 19 and 20).

The choice of team, and the reasoning behind the choice, looked like a good example of sensible forward planning.

The placing of Gary Lineker on the substitutes' bench was a part of that planning and, far from being an "extraordinary omission", I would say that it was Jones's reaction which was "extraordinary".

Yours faithfully,
MARK L. SHORE,
73 Wooburn Manor Park,
Wooburn,
High Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046. They should include a daytime telephone number.

Cricket viewers let down

From Mr Peter Herridge

Sir, Does someone at the BBC hate cricket? I thought the writing was on the wall during the recent Test series in New Zealand when highlights of the games were screened at 5pm, meaning that working people like myself couldn't watch.

This, of course, pales into insignificance compared with the decision to leave BSkyB to walk away with the sole rights to screening the World Cup. With England fielding probably its strongest ever one-day side, I and millions of others are denied the opportunity of witnessing this event. We can watch a whole gamut of obscure events in the Winter Olympics; we can even see the American football Super Bowl live (on Channel 4).

What we are experiencing is that well-known Thatcherite "freedom of choice", which we were assured that satellite television would bring. I have the freedom of choice either to pay £250 and erect an unsightly appendage to the outside of the building, in order to watch the cricket, or not to watch it.

In the 1987 World Cup I had the freedom to simply switch on my television and watch it. All this in a country where the prime minister is a self-professed cricket fan. In John Major's austere and recession-ridden Britain, I suppose we are meant to huddle around the wireless and dream of the good old days. The citizen's charter clearly doesn't extend to the world of cricket.

Yours faithfully,
PETER HERRIDGE,
32 Cave Court,
Wilder Street,
Bristol 2.

Better service

From Mr Karl Pike

Sir, Your Tennis Correspondent (February 24) raises, yet again, the problem of how to deal with the scourge of tennis matches that are ruled, and some would say ruined, by the service ace.

There must surely be some vested interest here that I for one cannot fathom, so obvious and simple is the answer: do away with the second service.

The risk of losing a point for a very fast service would then be not worth the taking, and, if it was, the inaccurate server would very soon learn his lesson.

Yours etc.,
K. B. PIKE,
534 High Road,
Leyton, E10.

From Mr T. W. Kidd

Sir, A solution could be to provide men's professional tennis players with a new service line a metre or so behind the existing baseline.

The resulting slowdown in the service would surely lead to many more rallies and greater spectator appeal.

A deeper service line for men would also make mixed doubles more enjoyable in the amateur game.

Yours sincerely,
TIMOTHY KIDD,
Burch's,
Sheepwash Lane,
Lavant,
Chichester,
West Sussex.

No contact

From Mr Julian Irving

Sir, I refer to the Sport on Television review (February 19) and suggest the following — in addition to an American footballer — as having a career in sport and never touching the ball: a midfield player for Cambridge United.

Yours faithfully,
J. IRVING,
16 Arden Road,
Dorridge,
Solihull,
West Midlands.

SQUASH RACKETS

Harris pays price for inconsistency

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN MADRID

THE inconsistency that has dogged Del Harris, the England No. 4, through the past couple of seasons, surfaced with a vengeance again in the Spanish Open championship here yesterday when he lost 15-11, 15-10, 15-7 in the first round to Anthony Hill, of Australia, a player he might have assumed he left behind four years ago in the world junior final in Edinburgh.

Hill was the surprise package of that world junior championship, leading Australia to the team title and extending Harris, the favourite for the individual championship, to the full five games.

While the tall Essex player prospered in his first seasons on the senior circuit, swiftly reaching the world top ten and developing an enviable commercial package, the Australian virtually disappeared into the endlessly demanding qualifying tournaments that preceed every big world tour event.

Hill now ranks twentieth in the world, only eight places behind Harris, earns frequent immediate entry to main draws such as this and is respected as a calculating shotmaker capable of testing the best on his day.

Certainly the examination he made here of Harris's court coverage and competitive will was too severe by far.

"There were times when Del seemed to be hitting the sort of level he managed when beating Ross Norman and showing well against Rod Martin in the Welsh Classic last week," Hill said. "But then he would go for some cheap shot and let me back into the rallies."

The two have met only once since that 1988 junior final — in Malaysia two years ago when Harris won in four games. "I guess I have improved," Hill said. "But he wanted to win more then."

Other English players seemed similarly lethargic against Australians in yesterday's early session. Stephen Meads lost in straight games to Tristan Nancarrow and Mark Cairns failed similarly against Rodney Eyles.

Only Bryan Beeson, the former England captain, progressed to the second round with a 15-12, 15-8, 15-6 win over Philip Larmer, an Australian qualifier.

RESULTS: First round: Jansher Khan (Pakistan) bt D Ryan (Ire), 15-4, 15-12, 15-12; B Beeson (Eng) bt P Larmer (Aus), 15-12, 15-8, 15-6; B Martin (Aus) bt M Carlyon (Aus), 15-8, 11-15, 15-10, 15-9; A Hill (Aus) bt D Harris (Eng), 15-11, 15-10, 15-7; R Martin (Aus) bt A Adamaga (Sp), 15-13, 15-13, 15-14; T Nancarrow (Aus) bt S Meads (Eng), 15-5, 15-8, 15-6; R Norman (NZ) bt B Franz (Ger), 15-12, 15-12, 15-13; R Eyles (Aus) bt M Cairns (Eng), 15-8, 15-4, 15-7.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sunderland v Sheffield Wed (7.0). Nottm Forest v Manchester City (7.0). Second division: Middlesbrough v Mansfield (7.0).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Watford v Tottenham; Wimbledon v Oxford Utd.

HARP LAGER FAI CUP: First round, second replay: Derry City v Sligo Rovers.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Second division: Sheffield v London Crusaders.

RL ACADEMY: First division: Bradford v Halifax (7.30) Academy Challenge Cup: First-round replay: Leeds v Warrington (6.0).

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: World indoor championships (Guild Hall, Preston).

BOXING: British and Commonwealth light-welterweight titles: Andy Holligan (Liverpool) v Tony McKenzie (Leicester) (at Everton SC); European cruiserweight title: Dennis Andries (Hackney) v Akim Tafer (Fr) (Beausoleil, Monaco)

SNOOKER: British Open (Derby).

TENNIS: LTA men's indoor satellite tournament (Croydon).

Tug Of Gold weighted to win

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

FOLLOWING a satisfactory second to Auction Law at Hereford earlier this month **Tug Of Gold** is napped to go one better in the Forbra Gold Cup at Ludlow today in the hands of Richard Dunwoody.

That Hereford race was effectively Tug Of Gold's first test of the season because he had been pulled up on his only other start three months earlier after losing touch following a bad early mistake.

At Hereford, though, the David Nicholson-trained seven-year-old turned in a more positive performance. Although beaten seven lengths, he still finished a distance ahead of the remainder.

He was also trying to give 19lb to a highly-rated horse who had been leniently treated with only 10st 5lb. The enormity of that task came to light at Leicester on Monday when Auction Law, despite being raised 14lb by the handicapper, again won emphatically.

Instead of giving weight away as he was before, Tug Of Gold will now be receiving weight from his main rivals, headed by Killbanon.

Killbanon would be hard to beat if he were to run as well as he did in November when he was beaten three-quarters of a length and the same by Auntie Dot and Celtic Shot at Haydock. But his latest run on that same track was less encouraging as he was beaten some 40 lengths in fifth.

Ronans Birthday is another who has disappointed recently since making a winning seasonal debut at Chepstow while Farmlea Boy finished some 18 lengths behind Tug Of Gold's stable companion Gambling Royal at Sandown last time.

Mountebor is not without a chance in this company having finished third at Leicester and Huntingdon.

But I feel the advantage lies with Tug Of Gold, who was successful and Wincanton and Towcester last season before also acquitting himself well when second at Cheltenham and Worcester.

Having run the good-class hunter chaser Eastern Destiny to two lengths at Hereford first time out **Trust The Gipsy** is taken to get the better of Celtic Leisure, Connate and Rose-Lane in the Aldon Novices' Hunters' Chase more especially now that he will be getting weight from them.

It should also pay to follow Jamie Osborne who rides **Camelot Knight** (2.00), **Lake Mission** (4.00) and **Ratify** (5.00).

Camelot Knight and Ratify, stable companions in Henrietta Knight's Lockinge yard, can collect the Cleehill Novices' Hurdle and the Corvedale Novices' Hurdle respectively after being runner-up to horses of the calibre of Native Pride, who is unbeaten this season, and Halkopous.

Having beaten Errant Knight by three-and-a-half lengths at Ludlow three weeks ago, **Lake Mission** re-opposes over the same distance in the Bromfield Novices' Chase. Although Errant Knight is 6lb better off Lake Mission is taken to win again.

At Lingfield I expect the two most valuable races to go to **Safety** (3.15) and **Cazaudehore** (3.45).

LUDLOW

MANDARIN	THUNDERER	RICHARD EVANS
2.00 Camelot Knight.	2.00 Coasting.	2.00 Dagaz.
2.30 Norfolk Thatch.	2.30 Mighty Prince	3.00 RONANS BIRTHDAY (nap).
3.00 TUG OF GOLD (nap).	3.00 Tug Of Gold	3.30 Castigliero.
3.30 Lava Falls.	3.30 Castigliero.	
4.00 Lake Mission.	4.00 Lake Mission.	
4.30 Trust The Gypsy.	4.30 Celtic Leisure.	
5.00 Ratify.	5.00 Miss Equilia.	

Brian Beel: 4.00 Celtic Leisure.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.30 TRUST THE GYPSY.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

2.00 CLEE HILL NOVICES HURDLE (£1,553: 2m 5f) (17 runners)

1	21-41	DAGAZ 41 (G) (D Jones) J Edwards 6-11-10	N Williamson	78
2	P200-P	ANJUBI 16 (E Edmondson) Mrs G Jones 7-11-4	P Ward (7)	87
3	400005	BOLD IMP 14 (J Heritage) A Barrow 7-11-4	W McFarland	77
4	0S0	BRANWELL BRONTE 94 (C Brooks) C Brooks 7-11-4	G Bradley	—
5	000	BROTHER BLUE 14 (Mrs S Leighton) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-4	S Cowley	—
6	4-502	CAMELOT KNIGHT 71 (Mrs L Dresher) Miss H Knight 6-11-4	J Osborne	● 99
7	520-44	COASTING 57 (The Slipstream Partnership) G Balding 6-11-4	J Frost	93
8	P346FF	COBBLERS COOLER 22 (Mrs J Smith) G Charles-Jones 7-11-4	Martin Jones	83
9	P0	GRINDLEY BROOK 20 (D McCain) D McCain 7-11-4	Mr D McCain (7)	—
10	6205P-0	JET 16 (T Werfield) C Popham 6-11-4	D Leahy (7)	90
11	654-04P	KELLY OWENS 51 (Mrs T Baron) N Smith 7-11-4	P Leach	72
12	00	LASTOFTHEVIKINGS 41 (J Needham) J Needham 7-11-4	R Guest	74
13	P/0	MY TATA 12 (A Robson) B Palling 6-11-4	C Evans	—
14	/24/054	SLIEVENAMADDY 3 (Mrs B Taaffe) M Barraclough 8-11-4	S McNeill	82
15	0	YOUNG JOE 26 (R Broomhall) R Holder 6-11-4	N Mann	—
16	020	KINGSLEY 51 (J Pointon) Miss S Wilton 5-10-13	S Davies (3)	80
17	440	POPPY CHARM 24 (Mrs M O'Shea) R Curtis 5-10-13	D Morris	89

BETTING: 13-8 Camelot Knight, 9-4 Dagaz, 7-2 Coasting, 12-1 Poppy Charm, Cobblers Cooler, 14-1 others.

1991: SALAMANDER JOE 6-11-11 R Dunwoody (8-11 fav) D Nicholson 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

DAGAZ beat Mega Blue ½l in an 11-runner novice hurdle at Catterick (2m, good). CAMELOT KNIGHT 3½l 2nd of 16 to Native Pride in a novice hurdle at Bangor (2m 4f, good to soft). COASTING 16½l 3rd of 13 to Native Pride in novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good) COBBLERS COOLER held every chance when falling 3 out in the race won by Lake Mission at Ludlow (2m 4f, good) SLIEVENAMADDY 4½l 4th of 12 to Castle Secret in a claiming hurdle at Doncaster (2m 4f, firm). KINGSLEY 10l 2nd of 4 to Levy Free in a novice hurdle at Doncaster (3m 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start, with KELLY OWENS 8½l last of 4.
Selection: CAMELOT KNIGHT

2.30 BORDER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HURDLE (£1,407: 2m) (15 runners)

1	613/F2P-	MIGHTY PRINCE 272 (B,D,F,S) (A Hawkins) M Pipe 7-12-0	T Dascombe (7)	—
2	/6342-0	BLANTON RESERVE 7 (D,F,S) (J Jordan) M Barraclough 8-11-11	V Slattery	● 99
3	3P/P0P0	BWANA KALI 69 (D,F) (P Bennett) J Bennett 10-11-8	V Donoghue (5)	—
4	P-214U2	FEARSOME 16 (D,S) (A Joynson) Mrs J Wonnacott 6-11-8	N Parker (7)	91
5	300033	JUST A MEMORY 7 (B,CD,F) (Central Racing Ltd) C Trietline 6-11-8	P Davies (5)	89
6	52-2541	GREY SONATA 14 (D,F,G) (C Popham) C Popham 5-11-6	D O'Sullivan	77
7	5UP053	CAPTAIN MANNERING 17 (F Stribbling) L Codd 7-11-4	F Murtagh	89
8	PPP-200	CREAM AND GREEN 20 (Andes Ltd) K White 8-11-4	D J Moffatt	97
9	36	NORFOLK THATCH 43 (B) (Mrs M Bridgwater) K Bridgwater 6-11-4	D Bridgwater	95
10	P0-	RAW TALENT 341F (G Barnett) G Barnett 5-11-4	M Lease (5)	—
11	4234-BP	ROYAL HUNT 31 (M Page) W Clay 7-11-4	J Driscoll (3)	83
12	45/6000	JOYFULNESS 36 (V,D,F) (E Bennion) P Bevan 7-11-3	S Bailey (7)	—
13	0414	YANKEE FLYER 101 (D,S) (J Pointon) Miss S Wilton 5-11-3	S Davies	90
14	U04/P	GOOD BUY BAILEY'S 17 (P Rodford) P Rodford 8-10-13	P Thompson (5)	—
15	0	LITTLE BANG 43 (K Bishop) K Bishop 4-10-5	R Greene	—

BETTING: 3-1 Mighty Prince, 4-1 Fearsome, 9-2 Yankee Flyer, 6-1 Norfolk Thatch, 7-1 Blanton Reserve, 10-1 Grey Sonata, Just A Memory, 12-1 Cream And Green, Captain Mannering, 16-1 others.

1991: TODA 4-10-1 D Richmond (5-2 fav) M Pipe 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

BLANTON RESERVE 1½l 2nd of 14 to Hats High in a handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good) on penultimate start FEARSOME 10l 2nd of 9 to Slavi in a selling novice hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 110yd, heavy)
GREY SONATA beat Floret a short head in a 9-runner conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 98yd, good), with JUST A MEMORY (6lb better off) 3l 3rd. JUST A MEMORY 4l 3rd of 17 to Great Fun in a conditional jockeys' claiming handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, good to firm). CREAM AND GREEN 19l 9th of 20 to Tom Clapton in a claiming hurdle at Bangor (2m, good to soft).
Selection: JUST A MEMORY

3.00 FORBRA GOLD CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£3,582: 3m) (8 runners)

1	F-133F5	KILLBANON 54 (D,F,G,S) (W Ebury) C Trietline 10-11-11	S Earle	93
2	282523	FARMLEA BOY 13 (C,D,F,G,S) (R Lavelle) G Balding 12-10-13	R Guest	94
3	F11-134	RONANS BIRTHDAY 16 (D,F,G,S) (Breener Fabrications Ltd) P Hobbs 10-10-6	C Maude	92
4	3/110-33	MOUNTEBOR 21 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs J Turpin) J Edwards 8-10-6	N Williamson	95
5	F122-P2	TUG OF GOLD 17 (F,G) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 7-10-1	R Dunwoody	● 99
6	21U535	HEADIN' ON 114 (D,F,G) (Mrs P Joynes) Mrs P Joynes 12-10-0	T Wall	89
7	PP33UP	PADDY BUCK 35 (F,S) (Mrs J Morris) J Honeyball 12-10-0	S McNeill	77
8	00F-324	BEN LEDI 16 (B,F) (A Joynson) Mrs J Wonnacott 8-10-0	Mr M Hourigan (7)	73

Long handicap: Paddy Buck 9-0, Ben Ledi 8-11.

BETTING: 11-4 Mountebor, 7-2 Farmlea Boy, 9-2 Tug Of Gold, 11-2 Killbanon, 6-1 Ronans Birthday, 14-1 Headin' On, 20-1 Ben Ledi, 33-1 Paddy Buck.

1991: LAUDERDALE LAD 9-10-1 P Scudamore (4-6 fav) J King 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

KILLBANON below form since running 1½l 3rd of 5 to Auntie Dot in a handicap chase at Haydock (3m, good). FARMLEA BOY 16½l 3rd of 8 to Gambling Royal in a handicap chase at Sandown (3m 118yd, good) RONANS BIRTHDAY 20l 4th of 13 to Bit Of A Clown in a handicap chase at Towcester (3m 1f, soft). MOUNTEBOR 3½l 3rd of 15 to River Bounty in a handicap chase at Huntingdon (3m, good). TUG OF GOLD 7l 2nd of 11 to Auction Law in a handicap chase at Hereford (3m 1f, good) HEADIN' ON 16½l 5th of 6 to Arctic Teal in a handicap chase at Nottingham (2m 6f, good to firm).
Selection: KILLBANON (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
N Henderson	7	21	33 3	G Bradley	6	18	33.3
R Price	4	13	30.8	M A Fitzgerald	3	11	27 3
M Pipe	21	82	25 6	D Gallagher	3	11	27.3
O O'Neill	6	24	25.0	P Scudamore	15	66	22.7
Mrs J Wonnacott	3	14	21.4	R Guest	3	14	21 4
G Balding	5	28	17.9	J Frost	4	20	20.0

3.30 HENLEY HALL GOLD CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,968: 2m 5f) (12 runners)

1	6-2656F	REDGRAVE GIRL 63 (F,G) (W Davies) K Bishop 10-12-0	R Greene (5)	89
2	3514-23	ANNICOMBE RUN 89 (D,G,S) (T Curry) R Lee 8-11-8	E Tierney (5)	80
3	/4P-040	SHADEUX 12 (F,S) (A Joynson) Mrs J Wonnacott 6-11-3	C Maude	97
4	0/3/0-2	GRENAGH 89 (C,S) (Mrs D Joyce) V Bishop 11-10-11	H Davies	83
5	513220	FIGHTING JESSICA 73 (G) (Mrs D Upson) J Upson 7-10-9	R Supple	91
6	02601	CASTIGLIERO 15 (V,S) (Mrs B Mead) C Brooks 4-10-7	G Bradley	● 99
7	P35601	LAVA FALLS 21 (F,G) (Mrs M Banks) M Banks 6-10-7	D Skyrme	96
8	62/4UP-	SUNSET SAM 267 (F,S) (E Jones) R Callow 8-10-2	M A FitzGerald (5)	84
9	453230	ANDRELOT 21 (V,G) (Mrs E Hitchins) K White 5-10-0	D Gallagher	89
10	128/005	DOMINION TREASURE 16 (D,G,S) (M Hubbard) R Baker 7-10-0	W McFarland	—
11	1-12500	TRANSMIT 31 (F,S) (Miss N Taylor) M O'Neill 5-10-0	L Wyer	97
12	4-643U4	FLEURCONE 42 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs B Wynn) K White 10-10-0	T Wall	85

Long handicap: Andrelot 9-12, Dominion Treasure 9-12, Transmit 9-12, Fleurcone 9-9

BETTING: 9-2 Castigliero, 5-1 Lava Falls, 6-1 Annicombe Run, Fighting Jessica, 7-1 Grenagh, 8-1 Dominion Treasure, 10-1 Shadeux, Redgrave Girl, 12-1 others.

1991: SOUTHOVER LAD 8-11-4 S Burrough (11-2) D Barons 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

REDGRAVE GIRL's best recent effort was when 12l 5th of 12 to La Cienaga in a handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m, good) SHADEUX 3½l 4th of 13 to Mr Lion in a handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start, with DOMINION TREASURE tailed-off 10th GRENAGH 1½l 2nd of 14 to Capability Brown in a handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f, good to soft), with ANNICOMBE RUN (5lb better off) 10l 3rd FIGHTING JESSICA 3½l 2nd of 7 to Bollin Patrick in a novice hurdle at Wolverhampton (2m 4f, soft) on penultimate start
CASTIGLIERO beat Queen's Anthem ¾l in a 26-runner handicap hurdle at Worcester (3m, soft) LAVA FALLS beat J Brand 5l in a 17-runner handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good) FLEURCONE 7½l 4th of 13 to Carbonate in a handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f, good to firm), with SHADEUX (7lb better off) 6½l 8th.
Selection: SHADEUX

4.00 BROMFIELD NOVICES CHASE (£1,995: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

1	/U51F2	ERRANT KNIGHT 22 (BF,G) (Mrs N Bird) M Pipe 8-11-10	J Frost	91
2	353364	HICKELTON LAD 12 (CD,F,G) (Miss B Palmer) D Williams 8-11-10	R Dunwoody	94
3	05/5351	LAKE MISSION 22 (CD,G) (W Montgomery) S Sherwood 7-11-10	J Osborne	89
4	/1/0-6FP	CLARE LAD 15 (F,S) (Travel Employment Group Ltd) G Ham 9-11-5	R Bellamy	82
5	5/0/0-P	GREY WHISKERS 63 (C Hitchings) C Hitchings 9-11-5	Martin Jones	—
6	P44/P0-	HEAD LAD 364 (F Lloyd) R Peacock 9-11-5	S McNeill	—
7	3/0-450P	HOT COMPANY 10 (G) (Attwood Holme Tabbernor & Ward) P Bevan 7-11-5	T Wall	—
8	10-0565	SINGING SAM 52 (G) (Mrs J Turpin) J Edwards 7-11-5	N Williamson	—
9	P45-FPP	THE POD'S REVENGE 7 (S) (W Williams) M O'Neill 7-11-5	L Wyer	—
10	1-4F2FP	FIRST CRACK 20 (C,F,G,S) (D Pugh) F Jordan 7-11-0	W McFarland	● 99
11	6-00	RECORD EDGE 12 (Mrs P Joynes) Mrs P Joynes 5-10-10	Mr S Joynes (7)	—

BETTING: 5-4 Lake Mission, 7-4 Errant Knight, 5-1 Singing Sam, 10-1 Hickelton Lad, 16-1 others.

1991: ANOTHER CRUISE 6-10-12 D Duggan (50-1) R Price 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

ERRANT KNIGHT beat Cherryhill Beauty 3l in a 15-runner maiden chase at Leicester (2m, good) in January. HICKELTON LAD 37l 4th of 5 to Deep Sensation in the grade II Nottinghamshire Novices' Chase (2m, good) LAKE MISSION beat ERRANT KNIGHT (6lb better off) 3½l in a 12-runner novice chase, over course and distance (good). CLARE LAD 18l 6th of 11 to Cyphrate in a novice chase at Warwick (2m, good) in January. FIRST CRACK beaten 5l by sole rival, Myverygoodfriend, in a novice chase at Leicester (2m, good) in December
Selection: ERRANT KNIGHT

4.30 ALDON NOVICES HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,330: 2m 4f) (16 runners)

1	1	CELTIC LEISURE 21 (G) (G Tanner) Mrs R Vickery 8-12-4	Mrs R Vickery (7)	80
2	0400/1	CONNATE 16 (B,S) (P Longhurst) R Barber 7-12-4	J Farthing (7)	89
3	1	ROSE-LANE 19 (G) (J Greenall) Miss C Saunders 6-12-4	J Greenall (3)	90
4	4P/0/P-P	BEGET 21 (B Hughes) B Hughes 12-12-0	V Hughes (7)	—
5	6433/	CAWARRA LAD 1368 (BF,G,S) (Miss S Pilkington) Miss S Pilkington 13-12-0	M Portman (7)	—
6	F6004/P	CLOUD CHASER 17 (I Brown) I Brown 9-12-0	A Brown (7)	—
7	/PP/P-	FIRST TOUCH 346 (D Murphy) D Murphy 9-12-0	A Milner (7)	—
8	PP306/	GLAMGRAM'S BEST 1028 (Mrs B Davies) G Davies 7-12-0	J Tudor (3)	—
9	/635/03-	RED BOLT 490 (C,F) (Miss S Havard) Miss S Havard 10-12-0	R Davis (7)	67
10		THIEF OF BAGDAD (Miss V Brown) R Hirons 8-12-0	G Hanmer (7)	—
11	43606/2	TRUST THE GYPSY 17 (Mrs B Whettam) J Dufosee 10-12-0	M Felton (7)	● 99
12	455206/	VULGANS LOVE 684 (Mrs C Penny) Mrs J Litston 10-12-0	Mrs J Litston (7)	—
13		YOUNG OUTLAW (J Hart) J Hart 11-12-0	F Chandler (7)	—
14	656/5-U	CARRY THE CAN 19 (J Cornwall) C Smith 8-11-9	J Cornwall (7)	—
15	5114-25	KATHY COOK 128F (Mrs S Popham) C Popham 7-11-9	M Hourigan (7)	—
16		WILD MOON (Mrs V Steggles) S Gilmore 9-11-9	A Tutton (7)	—

BETTING: 11-4 Celtic Leisure, 7-2 Connate, 5-1 Rose-Lane, Cawarra Lad, 11-2 Trust The Gypsy, 12-1 others.

1991: KONRAD WOLF 7-11-7 Mr S Brookshaw (11-2) Mrs H Clarke 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

CELTIC LEISURE beat Wellknown Character ½l in a 10-runner hunter chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, good), with BEGET pulled up behind. CONNATE beat The Jogger 8l in a 14-runner novice hunter chase at Newton Abbot (2m 5f, heavy).
ROSE-LANE beat The Undergraduate 3½l in a 14-runner novice hunter chase at Uttoxeter (2m 6f, good), with CARRY THE CAN unseating at the 1st CAWARRA LAD has showed fair form in point-to-points two season's ago and should strip fitter for a recent 3rd in a Ladies Open at Witton Castle. TRUST THE GYPSY 2l 2nd of 18 to Eastern Destiny in a hunter chase at Hereford (2m 3f, good), with CLOUD CHASER tailed off when pulled up before 2 out
Selection: CONNATE

5.00 CORVEDALE NOVICES HURDLE (£1,235: 2m) (18 runners)

1	20	ALWAYS READY 24 (Mrs N Shields) R Lee 6-11-4	W McFarland	93
2		CARDINAL RED (Mrs F Walwyn) Mrs F Walwyn 5-11-4	B de Haan	—
3	4-0	COMMODITY BROKER 52 (D Slingsby) W Brisbourne 7-11-4	T Wall	—
4	0-P	HANA-CRUISE 19 (C Bridgett) C Bridgett 5-11-4	C Hancock (7)	—
5	3	IRISH EMERALD 12 (C Bravery) G Bravery 5-11-4	R Campbell	96
6	00	KING'S RARITY 20 (T Corden) A J Wilson 6-11-4	R Guest	—
7		NOBLE PARTNER 265F (J Lewis) M Eckley 5-11-4	M A FitzGerald (7)	—
8	00	PRIDEWOOD GOLDING 31 (Mrs B Morris) R Price 5-11-4	Martin Jones	—
9	2	RATIFY 29 (A Yussef & Mrs K Richards) Miss H Knight 5-11-4	J Osborne	● 99
10	000-0P	SPY'S DELIGHT 70 (Mrs A Hewitt) Mrs A Hewitt 6-11-4	S J O'Neill	—
11	0-P	VICTORY ANTHEM 70 (Mrs E Roberts) N Henderson 6-11-4	R Dunwoody	—
12	0	XAI-TANG 85 (Andes Ltd) K White 5-11-4	A O'Hagan	78
13	13	MAY SQUARE 12 (G) (CD) (J Baker) K Bailey 4-11-1	S McNeill	86
14	40	J B SAUCY DORIS 40 (Mrs B Horan) W Brisbourne 6-10-13	S Wynne (7)	—
15	402	MISS EQUILIA 17 (Mrs P Browne) M Pipe 6-10-13	P Scudamore	87
16	6-0	SEENACHANCE 22 (Mrs M Rimell) Mrs M Rimell 5-10-13	Mr M Rimell (7)	71
17		ATATURK 218F (G Barnett) G Barnett 4-10-9	M Lease (7)	—
18	263346	AUVILLAR 62 (C Friel) O O'Neill 4-10-9	V Slattery (5)	91

BETTING: 8-11 Ratify, 7-2 May Square, 4-1 Miss Equilia, 10-1 Always Ready, 14-1 others

1991: SRIVIJAYA 4-10-12 R Dunwoody (5-2) D Nicholson 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALWAYS READY 6l 2nd of 19 to Absent Relative in a maiden hurdle at Lingfield (2m, good) on debut IRISH EMERALD 8l 3rd of 16 to Santaray in a novice hurdle at Nottingham (2m, good) RATIFY 8l 2nd of 20 to Halkopous in a novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good to firm). Quite useful middle-distance performer on the Flat MAY SQUARE 14l 3rd of 4 to Manzoor Sayadan in a hurdle at Windsor (2m, good) Better effort previously when beating Henley Regatta head in a 13-runner maiden hurdle, over course and distance (good) MISS EQUILIA 15l 2nd of 17 to Saffaah in a novice hurdle at Hereford (2m, good)
Selection: RATIFY

LINGFIELD PARK

MANDARIN	THUNDERER
2.15 Scented Goddess.	2.15 Qualitair Blazer.
2.45 Lady Poly.	2.45 Sea Shadow.
3.15 Safety.	3.15 Storm Orphan.
3.45 Cazaudehore.	3.45 Master Dancer.
4.15 Shar Emblem.	4.15 Seventh Lock.
4.45 Ilewin.	4.45 NORTHERN VILLAGE (nap).

GOING: STANDARD SIS

2.15 THYME MAIDEN CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,363: 2m 2f) (7 runners)

1		PLEASURE AHEAD 9F (J Daniels) M Dixon 5-11-10	Dale McKeown	—
2	4	QUALITAIR BLAZER 13F (Brooks (Enfield Wash) Ltd) J Jenkins 5-11-7	M Ahern	92
3	P0P-	COLORTAG 334 (J Parvert) J Parvert 6-11-2	—	—
4	P	HARRY'S GOING 19F (D Barber) R Hodges 4-10-8	W Irvine	—
5		TOP SPINNER 77F (G Hopkins) J White 4-10-5	A Webb	—
6	334564	GRANNY'S GIRL 12 (Mrs A Harris) J Harris 4-10-4	J A Harris	94
7	652232	SCENTED GODDESS 7 (A Goodman) J Moore 4-10-2	A Charlton	● 99

BETTING: 7-4 Pleasure Ahead, 5-2 Scented Goddess, 4-1 Top Spinner, 8-1 Granny's Girl, 10-1 others.

1991: DALRYMPLE 8-10-13 R Goldstein (5-1) D Grissell 12 ran

2.45 SAGE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,375: 2m 4f) (9 runners)

1	30/12-54	LEGAL TINA 7 (F) (S Walker) S Dow 7-12-0	A Dicken (7)	95
2	05160-P	QUIET ACHIEVER 128 (C) (M Culling) A Moore 7-11-7	G Moore	96
3	1/61-0PP	SAND CASTLE 5F (D,F,G) (Health Dynamics Ltd) P Howling 11-11-0	J McLaughlin	● 99
4	633312	LADY POLY 7 (C) (Sheet & Roll Convertors Ltd) Miss B Sanders 4-10-7	Dale McKeown	98
5	P/31-5P5	JACK THE HIKER 49 (F) (Mrs J Tyler) R Baker 9-10-5	N Coleman	80
6	PP5404	SEA SHADOW 7 (B,C,F) (Mrs V Palmer) A Barrow 7-10-4	W Irvine	97
7	0-0646	HATTON'S FESTIVAL 17 (Bee Gee Brushes) J Pearce 5-10-1	A Maguire	81
8	0B402	MILLIE 14 (Palacegate Corporation Ltd) J Jenkins 4-10-0	D Walsh (5)	87
9	05-5000	CARBON LADY 22 (D,F) (J South) J Harris 7-10-0	J A Harris	84

Long handicap: Millie 9-7, Carbon Lady 9-3

BETTING: 11-4 Lady Poly, 3-1 Sea Shadow, 9-2 Millie, 6-1 Legal Tina, 8-1 Jack The Hiker, 10-1 others.

1991: POMATUM 6-11-5 M Bosley (11-4) J Bosley 14 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
S Dow	15	36	41.7	A Dicken	13	27	48 1
T Thomson Jones	8	20	40.0	Dale McKeown	28	84	33.3
Miss B Sanders	20	54	37.0	A Maguire	14	44	31 8
M Robinson	4	12	33.3	A Tory	3	14	21 4
J White	9	37	24.3	M Ahern	9	43	20.9
J Jenkins	16	70	22.9	I Lawrence	4	20	20 0

3.15 TARRAGON HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,625: 2m) (4 runners)

1	212121	SAFETY 16 (B,CD,F) (K Sturgis) J White 5 11-11	A Webb	98
2	2-00002	TEL E THON 14 (B) (E Wilkinson) P Jones 5-10-9	G Upton	89
3	21122	STORM ORPHAN 7 (CD,BF) (T Scully) Miss B Sanders 5-10-1	A Maguire	98
4	F0F605	GYMCRAK DAWN 24 (B,G) (J Sanders) Mrs J Jordan 7-10-0	—	● 99

Long handicap: Gymcrak Dawn 9-5

BETTING: Evens Storm Orphan, 2-1 Safety 3-1 Tel E Thon 8-1 Gymcrack Dawn

1991: SPORTING IDOL 6-10-1 S Donohoe (13-8) C Popham 3 ran

3.45 BASIL HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,581: 3m) (5 runners)

1	/111/63	DON KEYDROP 14 (CD) (Mrs Y Dalton) Miss B Sanders 8-11-10	Dale McKeown	85
2	12132	MASTER DANCER 14 (CD,G,S) (C Billot) T Thomson Jones 5-11-3	Miss S Billot	● 99
3	5-U2112	CAZAUDEHORE 16 (CD,BF) (G Johnson) M Robinson 7-10-8	I Lawrence	98
4	46-P054	DESERT PALM 14 (B,F,G) (C Wells) R Hodges 7-10-0	A Tory	95
5	P00604	WEAREAGRANDMOTHER 51 (V,F,S) (P Rich) Grenville Richards 5-10-0	A Flannigan (7)	90

Long handicap: Desert Palm 9-9. Weareagrandmother 9-5.

BETTING: 8-11 Cazaudehore, 3-1 Master Dancer, 6-1 Don Keydrop 10-1 Desert Palm. 16-1 Weareagrandmother.

1991: GO SOUTH 7-11-11 M Ahern (30-100 fav) J Jenkins 5 ran

4.15 ROSEMARY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HURDLE (£1,339: 2m 6f) (6 runners)

1	042211	CRABBY BILL 16 (B,CD) (Financial Trace & Collections) Miss B Sanders 5-12 1	J Halls (5)	90
2	4-13454	SEVENTH LOCK 17 (F) (Mrs M Heath) O Sherwood 6-11-9	J McCarthy (5)	89
3	B430/4-P	GOLDEN SONATA 49 (K Harmsworth) M Muggeridge 7-11-3	S Fox (5)	—
4	050	DIZZY DEALER 10 (Telcammic Racing) Mrs J Jordan 5-10-12	M Sharratt (5)	—
5	31	SHAR EMBLEM 7 (C) (T Pearson) S Dow 4-10-8	A Dicken (3)	● 99
6	32604	SEMINOLE PRINCESS 7 (B Hemsley) C Jones 4-10-2	A Maguire	76

BETTING: 5-2 Shar Emblem. 100-30 Crabby Bill 4-1 Seventh Lock 6-1 Seminole Princess. 8-1 Dizzy Dealer 10-1 Golden Sonata others.

1991: KILROY 6-11-3 M Head (11-2) Miss P O Connor 7 ran

4.45 MARJORAM NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,339: 2m 2f) (5 runners)

1	35110P	WHASSAT 83 (F,G) (P Neophytou) M Muggeridge 6-11-13	W Irvine	87
2	543P-30	NORTHERN VILLAGE 9 (BF) (Visual Identity Ltd-Design Studio) S Dow 5-11-13	A Dicken (7)	93
3	212432	ILEWIN 14 (BF,G) (Miss D Barlow) J Jenkins 5-11-6	M Ahern	● 99
4	000-005	SAFARI KEEPER 45 (Mrs T Lawther) M Wilkinson 6-10-10	M Lynch	78
5	000P/	GENERAL OPTION 2113 (Mrs S Bader) C Widman 11-10-4	G Upton	—

BETTING: 6-4 Ilewin, 3-1 Whassat 4-1 Northern Village. 5-1 Safari Keeper 8-1 General Option

1991: EARLY BREEZE 5-11-2 G McCourt (5-2) M McCourt 12 ran

Morley Street losing race to be fit for Cheltenham

By MICHAEL SEELY

MORLEY Street, the reigning champion hurdler, has a less than 50-50 chance of being in the line-up at Cheltenham on Tuesday week for an attempt to retain his title.

Toby Balding was in bed with flu yesterday but Jonathan Geake, the assistant trainer at Whitcombe, said at Worcester: "It's not very hopeful. If the inflamation hasn't gone down by Friday night, so we can work him on Saturday, time will just about have run out."

The inflamation in Morley Street's near-fore developed on Monday night probably because the gelding bit his own leg. It is currently being dry-poulticed.

"We tried animalintex the first night in an attempt to draw the infection out," said Geake. "But there was some reaction so we had to give it up."

If Morley Street is withdrawn from the Champion Hurdle there is a chance that Forest Sun, a winner at Kempton on Saturday, might do duty for the stable. "He won't run in the Berkshire Hurdle on Saturday but we've still got our options open about the Champion and the Stayers' Hurdle."

Ladbrokes now offer 4-1 against Morley Street with the proviso of a run. Granville Again is favourite at 11-4 followed by 4-1 Royal Gait (from 9-2), 8-1 Fidway and Gran Alba, 10-1 Kribensis and 20-1 others, including Chirkpar.

Positive encouragement for Chirkpar, the conqueror of Morley Street at Leopardstown, came from the five-year-old's trainer, Jim Bolger. "I just can't understand why he's such a long price. To me he has much better than an each-way chance."

On the Gold Cup front, Pat's Jester was a bitterly disappointing favourite in yesterday's Westminster Motor Taxi Insurance Cavalier Chase. Starting at 13-8 on, the impressive winner of Haydock's Newton Chase was always struggling and, though staying on at the finish, was still two-and-a-half lengths adrift of Peter Scudamore and Star's Delight at the line.

Although yesterday's winner finished second in last season's Grand Annual Chase at Cheltenham carrying 11st 11lb the potential shown by Pat's Jester, previously a high-class hurdler, suggested that he should have been equal to the task.

"He was never travelling at any stage," said a disconsolate Neale Doughty. "He was never carrying me. I tried to go up alongside Scu but I couldn't. He wouldn't have won after a mile. And it's not as though he was distressed or blowing afterwards."

Speaking from his Cumbrian headquarters, Gordon Richards said: "I can't understand it. He likes company, but he was always racing wide of the other horse. But there you are. That Mr Pipe's horses just seem to keep on galloping. But Pat's Jester will still take his chance in the Gold Cup."

Richards: still keen to run Pat's Jester in Gold Cup

Peter Scudamore was convinced Star's Delight would have secured a greater winning margin on faster going. "But on this sticky ground two-and-a-half miles is about the limit of his stamina," Scudamore said. Star's Delight is likely to run in a handicap at the festival, the target being determined by the going.

Both Corals and Ladbrokes have eased yesterday's beaten favourite from 12-1 to 20-1, odds which hardly seem generous. Ladbrokes have shortened Carvill's Hill to 5-4 and then go 8-1 Kings Fountain and Toby Tobias, and 14-1 Docklands Express.

Hills are still prepared to offer 12-1 Toby Tobias and this price must surely represent outstanding each-way value. Of proven Gold Cup class, the now ten-year-old was only narrowly defeated by Norton's Coin in 1990.

Toby Tobias has always been considered to be a faster horse than last year's winner Garrison Savannah by both Jenny Pitman and her son, Mark. "His record proves that he's always been a pretty decent horse," said the trainer. "I was pleased with what he did at Windsor. It showed his mind was right. Now we've got to tighten the screws and get him spot-on physically on the day."

Sea Island, runner-up in four of her five races this season, finally had her moment of glory when completing a Pipe double under amateur Flo Monnier in the Mark Five Handicap Chase.

Jamie Osborne also completed a double on Kino, who quickened well to lead at the final flight to land the Jock Earl Westminster Handicap Hurdle, and Fanlight in the Taxinews Novices' Hurdle.

Fitzgerald has reason to smile

JIMMY Fitzgerald has had a lean time this season but Polar Region gave him something to look forward to with an all-the-way win in the Micklethwaite Handicap Hurdle at Wetherby yesterday.

The six-year-old will now go for the Coral Golden Hurdle Final at Cheltenham on Wednesday week, a race in which Fitzgerald pulled off a major gamble several years ago with Forgive'N Forget.

Fitzgerald also confirmed his main stable hope for the festival, Uncle Ernie, will run at Haydock on Saturday in the *Timeform* Chase. "If he runs well there then it's the Queen Mother Chase," the trainer said.

Gordon Richards completed a double with Whaat Fettle and River Pearl, in the process reaching his half-century of winners for the season.

Reveley's festival plans threatened by virus

MARY Reveley is unlikely to be represented at the Cheltenham festival next month. Her stable at Saltburn, Cleveland, has been affected by a virus and about half of her 60-strong jumping string are showing symptoms.

She will probably have no runners for at least a fortnight, which rules out stable stars Cab on Target and Swift Sword from National Hunt's premier meeting.

"The virus is spreading through the yard," Mrs Reveley said yesterday. "We have quite a few that are not sick at the moment but it's impossible to guarantee they won't catch it. The horses come first and I'm not going to start working them if there's a chance they are not well.

"I probably won't have any runners for a week or two. It's very doubtful if we'll send anything to Cheltenham."

Swift Sword, one of the leading fancies for the *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle, and Cab On Target in the Stayers' Hurdle would be the most notable absentees.

Mrs Reveley is enjoying her best season and her tally of 72 winners is bettered only by the champion trainer Martin Pipe.

☐ Bolaney Boy and Cokenny Boy are 12-1 joint-favourites with the sponsors for the Coral Golden Hurdle final at Cheltenham on Wednesday week. Then follow 14-1 Holy Joe, Royal Astronaut and Trapper John.

☐ Desert Orchid will be among six past greats to parade before the first race of the Cheltenham festival on Tuesday week. He will be joined by See You Then, Night Nurse, Sea Pigeon, Gaye Brief and Burrough Hill Lad.

☐ Tattersalls, the bloodstock auctioneers, announced yesterday that following agreement with the Jockey Club the Tattersalls Houghton Sales Stakes next year will carry £500,000 in bonus prize-money.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS FROM FOUR MEETINGS

Worcester

Going: good to soft

2.00 (2m hdle) 1, FANLIGHT (J Osborne, 14-1); 2, Kayfaat (P Scudamore, Evens fav); 3, Dancing Paddy (R Strange, 8-4). ALSO RAN. 10 Road To Au Bon (4th), 12 Sohrab (5th), 16 Romola Nijinsky, 25 Macedonas (6th), 33 Sea Cadet (pu), Dyd (pu), 50 Mahir, Rogevic Belle (pu), Pigeon Loft (pu), 100 Book Of Genesis (pu). 13 ran. 3l, 15l, 15l, 1½l, 6l. R Akehurst at Epsom. Tote. £12.10; £2.50, £1.10, £1.30 DF: £8 00. CSF. £28.28.

2.30 (3m ch) 1, PEAJADE (R Dunwoody, 25-1), 2, Stirrup Cup (J Osborne, 11-1), 3, Cache Fleur (P Scudamore, 5-2). ALSO RAN 6-4 fav Ask Frank (f), 7 Morgens Harbour (pu), 8 Lugnam Vitae (f), 14 Celtic Prince (5th), 33 Sand Minstrel (pu), 66 Tompet (pu), 100 Kilfelan Lad (6th), Rocky Vulgan (pu), Winning Dancer (pu), Woodlands Genhire (4th), Woodlands Genpower (pu), Young Miner (pu), L'Aquino (f), Rondeau (pu) 17 ran. NR: Lyphento 3l, 30l, 5l, 25l, nk. D Nicholson at Stow-on-the-Wold Tote £10 60, £2 40, £3 30, £1 40 DF. £77 50. CSF £243.20

3.00 (2m 4f hdle) 1, NTOMBI (A Maguire, 9-4 fav); 2, Gaelstrom (P Scudamore, 7-1), 3, Boreen Jean (D Bridgwater, 13-2). ALSO RAN. 5 Mighty Frolic, 8 Pop Abroad, 10 Hi Boots, 12 How Doudo, Island Run (6th), 14 Nicklup (f), 25 Frozen Flame (pu), Springhill Spirit, 33 Mariners Love, Pennethorne Place (pu), Pollerton's Pride (4th), Power Happy (pu), 50 Anemaal (pu), Carlingford Belle (5th), Fyne Court (pu), Hayley's Lass, Madam Bee, Monell, New Problem, Pride Of Targogan (pu), Raglan Lady (pu) 24 ran. NR: King's Nell Nk, 2½l, 6l, ¾l, sh hd. V Bishop at Hay-On-Wye. Tote: £3.10; £1 60, £2 70, £2 20. DF: £11 80. CSF: £20.77.

3.30 (2m 4f ch) 1 STAR'S DELIGHT (P Scudamore, 2-1), 2 Pat's Jester (N Doughty, 8-13 fav), 3, General Merchant (A Tory 100-1) ALSO RAN 11-2 Southern Minstrel (4th) 200 Prince Rambor (f). 5 ran 2½l, dist 5l. M Pipe at Wellington Tote £2 70 £1.60, £1 10 DF £1.50 CSF £3.55

4.00 (3m ch) 1, SEA ISLAND (Mr F Monnier, 7-1); 2, Betty Hayes (Mr M Hourigan, 8-1), 3, Wrekin Hill (Mr A Thornton, 9-2 jt-fav); 4, Hurry Up (Miss A Harwood, 14-1) ALSO RAN 9-2 jt-fav Matalx (5th); 7 Salcombe Harbour (pu), 8 Baslies (ur), 9 Moze Tidy (f), 11 Valassy (6th), 14 Manhattan Chase (pu). 33 Granny Pray On (pu), Martredee, Autumn Zulu (pu), 50 Ogendeba (pu), Pop Song (ur), 66 Just Mick (pu), 100 Scale Model, 300 Parky Pete (pu), 500 Craig-Y-Bwgen (pu) 19 ran NR Master Comedy. 6l, 3l, 20l, 2½l, 25l M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £10 00; £1 60, £2 30, £2 20, £1 80 DF: £51.50. CSF £48 15 Tricast: £201.00.

4.30 (2m 2f hdle) 1, KINO (J Osborne, 6-1); 2, Mariners Mirror (S McNeill, 14-1); 3, Great Aspect (R Dunwoody, 5-2 fav) ALSO RAN: 6 Soldiers Duty, Bold Choice, 7 Able Leader (6th), 9 Whistling Tiger (5th); 10 Hats High (4th), 12 Magnus Pym, 20 Great Sailing, Point Made, 50 Jarras, Edward Seymour, Holyport Victory. 14 ran NR Fighting Words. 5l, 2½l, 2½l, ¾l, 1l S Sherwood at East Ilsley. Tote: £7.10; £2.30, £4 10, £1 70. DF £79.70 CSF £85.34. Tricast. £246.00.

5.00 (2m flat) 1. LA PRINCESSE (M McGonagle, 12-1); 2, Shadows Of Silver (G Robertson, 5-4 fav), 3, Crazy Daisy (P Carey, 25-1) ALSO RAN: 5-2 Run Fast For Gold (5th), 6 Tiam, 8-1 Chickabiddy, 14-1 Paul's Princess, 16 Nicsamlyn, Wenrisc, 20 Setai's Palace, 25 Mossy Run, Polly Penora, 33 Celtic Rhyme (6th), Dartamer, Russinsky (4th), Llacca Princess, 50 Stilo, 66 Caths Folly, Deep Delight (ref to race). Hannah Bee, Julie Stephens. 21 ran NR: Applied Graphics Deep Delight refused to race but came under orders, stakes refunded 2l, 15l, ½l, 15l, 4l S Christian at Severn Stoke. Tote £13.70, £3 30, £1 40, £12.20 DF: £11.50 CSF £31 78 After a stewards' enquiry, result stood

Placepot: £7.00.

Wetherby

Going: good

2.15 (3m hdle) 1, Coumtorus (A Orkney, 14-1), 2, Addington Lad (4-1 fav), 3, Irish Gent (8-1), 4, Celtic Breeze (13-2) 19 ran. NR. Commanche Sioux 12l, 1½l. J Johnson Tote £17 80; £2.50, £1 70, £1 90, £1 80 DF £88 40 CSF £64 71 Tricast: £448.56

2.45 (2m 4f 100yd ch) 1, Curaheen Boy (Miss J Butler, 100-30); 2, Knockumshin (9-1), 3, Lord Purna (9-4 fav) 11 ran 2½l, 25l C Trietline Tote £5 00; £1.70, £1.90, £1 50 DF £16.90. CSF £30 62.

3.15 (2m 50yd ch) 1, Cavalier Crossett (Mr R Hale, 5-2); 2, Pinemartin (7-2), 3, Blakes Son (6-6 fav). 3 ran. 10l, 1½l E Caine. Tote: £3.10. DF. £2.90 CSF: £8 01

3.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, River Pearl (G McCourt, 9-4); 2, Ima Delight (7-1), 3, Sally Pigtails (20-1) Weddicar Lady 5-6 fav 8 ran 10l, 3l G Richards Tote £2 80; £1.20, £1.40, £2 70 DF £8 10. CSF £17 63

4.15 (3m) 1, Polar Region (M Dwyer, 4-6 fav; Mandarin's nap), 2, Mineral Dust (7-1); 3, Fettuccine (25-1) 7 ran. 3l, 12l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote. £1.80; £1.40, £2 40 DF: £4.90. CSF: £5.84.

4.45 (3m 100yd ch) 1, Whaat Fettle (M Moloney, 8-1), 2, Otterburn House (8-11 fav); 3, Truely Royal (8-1) 8 ran. 2l, 10l G Richards Tote: £9.20, £1.40, £1 30, £1.70 DF: £4.30 CSF. £13 84

5.15 (2m hdle) 1, Oak Park (D Dennis, 12-1), 2, Nijmegen (3-1 jt-fav), 3, Luke's Brave Boy (3-1 jt-fav) 14 ran 1½l, 1l. J Pickering. Tote: £14 70, £3.90, £1.60, £2.00. DF. £29.40. CSF. £47 66.

Placepot: £51.40.

Southwell

Going: standard

2.10 (1m 4f) 1, Tempering (S Wood, 11-1); 2, Lara's Baby (4-6 fav); 3, Le Temeraire (15-2). 15 ran. 2½l, 1½l D Chapman. Tote: £17.90; £4.60, £1 60, £1 00. DF: £7.70. CSF: £19.32.

2.40 (1m) 1, Akura (R P Elliott, 16-1); 2, Firefighter (6-4 fav); 3, Trump (11-2) 6 ran. 2½l, 1½l. M Johnston. Tote £59.90; £13.00, £1.30. DF: £44.70 CSF £39.47.

3.10 (1m) 1, Papa Westray (J Fanning, 9-2); 2, High Success (16-1); 3, Elsharn (16-1). Ferdia, Energic 7-2 jt-fav. 9 ran. 3l, 2l. T Barron. Tote. £5.30; £1.50, £5 40, £5.10. DF: £99.10. CSF: £81.15 Tricast: £952.35.

3.40 (7f) 1, East Barns (B Doyle, 7-1); 2, Grand Guignol (7-4 fav); 3, Sciacca (20-1). 12 ran. 1l, 7l T Barron Tote £6.50; £1.90, £1.10, £2.90 DF £7.80. CSF: £18 92 Tricast: £217 22.

4.10 (6f) 1, Toshiba Comet (D Nicholls, 4-1), 2, Saladan Knight (11-2); 3, Orient Air (5-2 fav) 9 ran 1l 2l W Pearce Tote £4 10, £1 80, £2.50, £1 70 DF £15 60 CSF. £22 79 Tricast. £52 71

4.40 (6f) 1, Daros (M Hills, 16-1), 2, Eastleigh (7-4 fav), 3, Lord Naskra (10-1). 11 ran 2l, 2l. Mrs J Ramsden Tote £10.90, £4 80, £1 80, £2 20 DF £9 30 CSF £43 46

Placepot: £67.30.

Plumpton

Going: good to firm (good in front of stands)

2.20 (2m hdle) 1, Run For Nick (N Williamson 15-8 fav) 2, Canoscan (9-4), 3, Nakora Bistraya (5 1) 10 ran NR Always Ready Nk 12l Mrs D Haine Tote £2 60; £1.30, £1.30, £1 70 DF £3.20 CSF £5 96

2.50 (3m 1f ch) 1 Rare Luck (M Richards, 7-2), 2, Over And Above (9 4 fav), 3, Secret Rito (11-2) 8 ran 6l, ¾l P Jones Tote £4 80 £1 60, £1 40 £1 50 DF £5 50 CSF £11 18 Tricast £36 19

3.20 (2m hdle) 1, Tanfirion Bay (M Richards, 9-4 fav), 2, Krsu Kah (5-1), 3, Departure (8-1) 8 ran 1l 12l P Hedger Tote £3 00, £1 40, £2 10, £2 30 DF £6 70 CSF. £13 02 Tricast £67 56

3.50 (2m ch) 1, Pacific Gem (D Morris, 2-1 jt-fav) 1 Little Tom (2-1 jt-fav) 3, Cotapaxu (11 2) 6 ran 25l, 10l R Curtis Tote £3 30, £1 40, £2 30 DF £2 80 CSF £6 35

4.20 (3m 1f ch) 1, Mark Kybo (D O'Sullivan, 12-1), 2, Parsons Pleasure (7-2), 3, Blue Marble (16-1) Mr Dormouse 2-1 fav 12 ran 7l, 20l R O'Sullivan Tote £13 70; £3.20, £1 90, £2.40. DF £19 80 CSF £51 34. Tricast £630.55

4.50 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Directors' Choice (Mr C Hancock, 14-1), 2, High Chateau (16-1) 3, Premier Princess (14-1) Ambrose 11-8 fav 15 ran NR Hackelton House 25l, hd W Carter Tote £13 80 £3 40, £6.10, £3 10 DF £125 00 CSF £203 44 Tricast £2891 91

Placepot: £317.80.

☐ John Forte, the former Flat jockey, has died aged 58. Forte rode more than 200 winners, primarily as a lightweight for Ryan Price, Gerry Balding and Toby Balding.

South Africans make a stunning World Cup debut by humbling the favourites under the Sydney floodlights

Australians left in disarray by an unexpected defeat

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN SYDNEY

THIS was a night of implausible deeds, a night that could not honestly have been foreseen by either the most pessimistic Australian or the most romantic South African. It was a night to throw the World Cup into turmoil as the favourites faced up to the unthinkable threat of elimination.

South Africa had been hinting, during weeks of endless preliminaries, that they were no longer the gullible innocents abroad. Allan Border had noticed as much, and had even remarked on it. But last night, to the astonishment of almost 40,000 people at the Sydney Cricket Ground, the hint became an emphatic statement.

Australia were beaten by nine wickets, with 13 balls to spare. It was their second successive defeat in the first five days of the competition and it dismayed them even more than the local embarrassment of losing to New Zealand.

Incredible to relate, the world champions did not compete. They made a patently inadequate score of 170, against tigerish South African outcricket, and their attempts to defend it were woeful. Long before the end, the crowd had begun streaming disconsolately away. Had they stayed, they would have witnessed emotional scenes on the South African balcony as victory was secured by Kepler Wessels, now South Africa's captain but from 1982 until 1986 Australia's opener.

Wessels is a cricketing gypsy. You can add to his two countries, four South African provinces, one Australian state and an English county. At each of them, he has been an unsmiling introvert, a hugely improbable leader of men. But, having been controversially installed to replace the banished Clive Rice, Wessels has indicated tactical and motivational depth. Thus far, the maligned selectors are vindicated.

South Africa's run-chase was always likely to depend heavily on him and his response was typically stoical. He was unbeaten with 81, made the winning hit himself and was heartily congragulated by his old team-mates.

It had to be his happiest day and, if his expression refused to confirm it, his words eventually did. In a speech reminiscent of an Oscar acceptance he thanked everyone in sight and then, as a highly religious man, publicly thanked God for making it possible.

At the other end of the old pavilion, a perplexed Border was seeking divine guidance on his own situation.

"It's all gone haywire," he said. "I just wish I could explain it. We are in a major trough and we've got a lot of soul-searching to do very quickly, because it will take a big turnaround in our form for us to even qualify from here."

This was not dramatising the crisis. Border, like most of the captains, believes he needs five wins out of eight for a place in the last four. By that reckoning, he must now win five out of six, a mountainous task on yesterday's form.

The sharpest thrusts of the captain's criticisms were aimed at Australia's flawed middle-order, himself included. After he had won the toss, stayed contentiously loyal to his policy of batting first and seen Marsh given not out when he looked to have thick-edged Allan Donald's opening delivery, Border was happy enough with the start of 42 from ten overs.

But from the moment when the form player, Boon, was run out, the innings was derailed. South Africa, their nerves settling, bowled tightly, none more so than Snell, and fielded as we always remembered them in the distant past, rather than as they had done in India in November.

Kuiper, a potentially vulnerable bowler, instead dislodged the struggling Marsh and then bowled Border, first ball, through a casual shot. Donald, much the fastest bowler in the competition, returned, fired up, and took three wickets before Jonty Rhodes, who may be the best cover fielder in the world at 22, thrillingly ran out McDermott.

Australia did not have enough runs. They also did not have their wicketkeeper, Healy having injured a hamstring while batting. Boon took over and dropped Wessels, when he was 23. But, as Border later confessed, the bowling was so untidy and the fielding so remarkably sloppy that it probably made no difference.

South Africa, their two key batsmen at the helm, won in a canter and, however much Australia contributed to their own downfall, the newcomers can no longer be lightly dismissed.

☐ Allan Lamb, the England batsman, who is hoping to return against Pakistan in Adelaide on Sunday, after a hamstring injury, had a successful net session yesterday.

Diary, page 12
S Africa celebrates, page 10

TABLE

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts	Run rate
New Zealand	2	2	0	0	0	4	4.66
England	1	1	0	0	0	2	4.72
West Indies	1	1	0	0	0	2	4.72
Sri Lanka	2	1	1	0	0	2	5.26
South Africa	1	1	0	0	0	2	3.65
Zimbabwe	1	0	1	0	0	0	6.24
India	1	0	1	0	0	0	4.60
Pakistan	1	0	1	0	0	0	4.40
Australia	2	0	2	0	0	0	3.92

☐ *Does not include Pakistan v Zimbabwe.*

☐ Top four teams qualify for semi-finals.

FIXTURES (all times GMT): Today: England v West Indies (Melbourne, 03.30; live television coverage by Sky Sports); India v Sri Lanka (Mackay, 23.00). Tomorrow: New Zealand v South Africa (Auckland, 21.30; live television coverage by Sky Sports); West Indies v Zimbabwe (Brisbane, 23.00).

Wessels: happy captain

SYDNEY SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA

G R Marsh c Richardson b Kuiper	25
†D C Boon run out	27
D M Jones c Richardson b McMillan	24
*A R Border b Kuiper	0
T M Moody lbw b Donald	10
S R Waugh c Cronje b McMillan	27
I A Healy c McMillan b Donald	16
P L Taylor b Donald	4
C J McDermott run out	6
M R Whitney not out	9
B A Reid not out	5
Extras (lb 2, nb 4, w 11)	17
Total (9 wkts, 49 overs)	170

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-42, 2-76, 3-76, 4-97, 5-108, 6-143, 7-148, 8-156, 9-161.

BOWLING: Donald 10-0-34-3; Pringle 10-0-52-0; Snell 9-1-15-0; McMillan 10-0-35-2; Kuiper 5-0-15-2; Cronje 5-1-17-0.

SOUTH AFRICA

*K C Wessels not out	81
A C Hudson b Taylor	28
P N Kirsten not out	49
Extras (b 5, nb 2, w 6)	13
Total (1 wkt, 46.5 overs)	171

W J Cronje, A P Kuiper, J N Rhodes, B M McMillan, †D J Richardson, R P Snell, M Pringle and A A Donald did not bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-74.

BOWLING: McDermott 10-1-23-0; Reid 8.5-0-41-0; Whitney 6-0-26-0; Waugh 4-1-16-0; Taylor 10-1-32-1; Border 4-0-13-0; Moody 4-0-15-0.

Man of the match: K C Wessels.
Umpires: B Aldridge (New Zealand) and S Bucknor (West Indies).

At full throttle: Donald, the South African fast bowler, who played an important role with three wickets

Slow men prove their worth

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK
IN AUCKLAND

IN THE three World Cup matches played so far in New Zealand, the spinners have drawn favourable attention to themselves. Patel, of New Zealand, Traicos, of Zimbabwe, and Kalpage, of Sri Lanka, bowl off breaks: Anurasiri, another Sri Lankan, is a slow, orthodox left-armer.

Allan Border admitted after last Saturday's match in Auckland that New Zealand had pulled off something of a tactical coup by opening their bowling with Patel.

At New Plymouth on Sunday, Traicos put in ten overs for 33 runs for Zimbabwe in a match in which the faster bowlers of both sides were going, on average, for eight runs an over; and at Hamilton on Tuesday, Sri Lanka were kept in the game by Anurasiri and Kalpage.

The look of consternation on the faces of Boon and Marsh when it dawned on them that, for once, the game was not going to be played by numbers, was a sight to behold.

Patel's contribution had much to do with New Zealand's victory, while, at the age of 44 Traicos is probably the best lion-tamer in the game. Anurasiri is the type of bowler on whom India and Ceylon (as they then were) built their cricketing reputation. Kalpage is not, in fact, much rated as a bowler; but he was still a lot more effective on a slow pitch, with the ball turning, than several ordinary medium-pacers.

I am not denying that the most effective attacks are based on speed. They generally have been, and no doubt usually will be. In certain conditions the run-of-the-mill seamer will do a job as economically, very often more so, than a top-class spinner, or even the best of fast bowlers. India's victory over West Indies in the final of the 1983 World Cup provided, to some extent, an example of that.

But in the long term it was, I believe, a bad thing for Indian cricket that they won the World Cup without the need for spin. The game has never been the same in India since — or, arguably, as healthy. On the maidans of Calcutta and Bombay, budding Bedis and would-be Chandrasekhars have been replaced by mini-trundlers.

With another good spinner in their side against New Zealand Sri Lanka might well have won that match. They would have had the satisfaction, too, of being true to themselves rather than slaves to conformity.

Injuries keep A team waiting

Hamilton, Bermuda: There has been no escape from the irritating strains and mishaps that plague this tour, in spite of the extensive training England A undertook before they set out (Richard Streeton writes).

After Moxon's bad luck at the weekend, Stephenson, Cork and Johnson suffered minor injuries on Tuesday when they beat a Select XI to gain their third consecutive win. England complete their programme in Bermuda today against the Devonshire Recreation Club, the champions of the local league, and will not finalise their team until it is known who is available.

Stephenson strained his side while bowling and it would seem unnecessary to risk aggravating the injury. He is the nearest thing to an all-rounder in this England party, though both Cork and Croft, in the long term, have the ambition and the ability to develop their batting on a par with their bowling.

Cork also needs rest after straining a back muscle, a disappointing setback for a conscientious young man who has worked hard in the nets and improved his control of line and length, after a slower approach run.

Johnson bruised a thumb as he took a good catch and deep square leg. He is one of several middle-order players who have not yet had the opportunity to play a long innings. England plan to reshuffle their batting order against Devonshire to deal with this problem.

BOWLS

Schuback survives longest match

BY DAVID RHYS JONES

IAN Schuback, from Australia, the runner-up for the past two years, won the longest match in the history of the world indoor championships, taking four hours and forty minutes and needing five sets to defeat David Holt and move into the semi-finals in Preston yesterday.

Holt, from Blackpol, and with the large local support behind him took the opening set 7-3 but the Australian required just three ends to complete a 7-0 whitewash in the second to square the match.

The third went to 12 ends before Schuback edged in front again thanks to singles on each of the last three ends, but Holt took the fourth set 7-2 to force a decider.

The deciding set turned into a tense battle and Schuback edged ahead 6-5 with a single on the ninth end. Then Holt missed his big chance to secure victory. Lying the two shots he needed for victory, Schuback then removed one with his final delivery but left Holt some four feet to add the match winning shot.

Disappointingly however for the English international he dropped short with his last delivery and a relieved Schuback took shot on the next end to win 3-7, 7-0, 7-6, 2-7, 2-6."That's got to rate as one of my best ever performances and it's certainly the best and hardest match I've played in" said Schuback.

YACHTING

Defenders' spy tactics bridge limit

San Diego: A meeting of America's Cup challenger and defender syndicates here yesterday agreed, with one dissenter, that surveillance being carried out by the America³ defence syndicate went beyond accepted levels (Bob Ross writes).

The dissenter, America³, represented by its executive vice-president, Vincent Moeyersoms, did not deny it had sophisticated data-gathering equipment but did not agree it went beyond accepted practice.

Iain Murray, head of the Spirit of Australia syndicate, among others, has alleged that America³ has installed underwater cameras and equipment capable of reading the yachts' performance instruments, on board a power cruiser called Guzzini.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	Temp °C	Last snow fall
FRANCE							
Avoriaz	135	185	good	open	fine	0C	17/2
(Good skiing at all levels)							
Flaine	85	230	good	open	fine	-1C	17/2
(Crusty snow on top slopes, hardpacked elsewhere)							
La Plagne	30	160	good	open	cloudy	+2C	17/2
(All pistes complete. Resort fairly busy)							
Tignes	130	195	good	open	cloudy	0C	17/2
(Excellent skiing on glacier. Lower slushy by late afternoon)							
Val Thorens	120	180	good	open	fine	-1C	17/2
(Lower runs icy. Best skiing on Cime de Caron)							
AUSTRIA							
Brand	50	200	good	open	cloudy	+3C	22/2
(Good skiing on soft, dry snow. All lifts/runs)							
Igls	20	120	good	open	sunny	0C	18/2
(Upper pistes good, lower wearing thin)							
Kitzbühel	65	140	good	open	cloudy	0C	22/2
(Good skiing on upper sections. All lifts/runs)							
Scheffau	45	120	good	open	cloudy	0C	23/2
(Lower runs very soft by late afternoon but good overall)							
Zell am See	80	180	good	open	cloudy	0C	21/2
(Great skiing on the Schmittenhoehe. All lifts)							
ITALY							
Courmayeur	30	115	fair	some	rain	+3C	16/2
(Lower runs rocky, upper runs still good. 24 lifts)							
Livigno	75	120	good	open	cloudy	-1C	17/2
(Lower runs icy, upper still good on hardpacked snow)							
Sauze d'Oulx	40	80	good	open	cloudy	-3C	17/2
(Upper runs still good. Lower runs icy)							
SWITZERLAND							
Arosa	120	130	good	open	cloudy	-1C	18/2
(Powder remains on some upper runs, hardpacked elsewhere)							
Davos	130	200	good	open	cloudy	0C	19/2
(Still good skiing at all levels)							
Gstaad	45	115	good	open	sunnyy	+2C	17/2
(Spring snow on most pistes. Most lifts operating)							
Zermatt	60	170	good	open	sunny	+1C	17/2
(Upper runs still very good. Runs to resort hard in places)							

Supplied by Ski Hotline. L and U refer to lower and upper slopes

ROWING

Oriel's restoration spurred by death

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ORIEL'S return to the top of the men's first division of Oxford University torpids yesterday was marred by the death of John Hebbes the previous day.

Oriel decided to row only after a lengthy meeting, and once on the river, wore down Christ Church, and made the bump 50 yards from the finish. They were tipped to catch Christ Church and Hebbes's death made the crew all the more determined. The other bump in the division was by Magdalen on St Catherine's.

In the women's top division, the expected challenge by Osler House on Somerville never materialised. Somerville pulled away from the start, and there were three clear lengths between the crews as they passed the University boat house.

At Cambridge, Trinity Hall rowed over as head boat on the first day of the Lent bumps. Hall watched their pursuers Downing succumb to Jesus at the railings. The next two boats bumped out when Pembroke pounced on Lady Margaret at Ditton. An exciting chase between Churchill and Selwyn ended in Selwyn being bumped outside the bus shelter in front of a large crowd.

In the second division, Robinson gave themselves a harder task by choosing to overtake Jesus II in the long reach instead of bumping them.

Lady Margaret became the new head boat in the women's division, but had to chase their rivals, Emmanuel, to the White House before victory was theirs.

Oarsman dies, page 1

RESULTS AND ORDER OF ROWING

Oxford

Men

FIRST DIVISION: Oriel bpd Christ Church; Magdalen bpd St Catherine's.
SECOND DIVISION: Worcester bpd Keble, Wadham bpd Trinity; St Peter's bpd Merton, Queen's bpd Christ Church II
THIRD DIVISION: Exeter bpd St Hugh's, University II bpd St Hugh's; New College bpd St Hugh's, Osler House bpd St Hugh's; St Anne's bpd Mansfield, Oriel III bpd Lincoln II; Balliol II bpd Lincoln II.
FOURTH DIVISION: Worcester II bpd Hertford II; Wolfson II bpd Hertford II, Linacre bpd Queen's II; St John's II bpd Lady Margaret Hall II
FIFTH DIVISION: Regent's Park bpd Oriel IV; Magdalen II bpd Queen's III, Jesus II bpd St Anne's II; St John's III bpd Exeter III.
SIXTH DIVISION: St Peter's II bpd Keble III; New College IV bpd Balliol III; Hertford III bpd Balliol III; University III bpd Balliol III; Merton II bpd Balliol III; St Hugh's II bpd Balliol III; Osler House II bpd Balliol III
SEVENTH DIVISION: Osler House II bpd St Hugh's III; Magdalen III bpd Christ Church IV; St Antony's bpd Brasenose IV; Merton III bpd Mansfield II

Women

FIRST DIVISION: Wadham bpd St Catherine's; New College bpd Wadham, Wolfson bpd Lady Margaret Hall; University bpd Keble, Pembroke bpd St Hugh's, St Hilda's bpd St Hugh's.
SECOND DIVISION: St Hilda's bpd Trinity; Worcester bpd Hertford, Balliol bpd Lincoln; Christ Church bpd Lincoln; St Edmund Hall bpd Lincoln; Somerville II bpd St Edmund Hall; St John's bpd Somerville II; Oriel bpd St John's
THIRD DIVISION: Exeter bpd St Peter's, Magdalen bpd Wadham II; Linacre bpd St Hugh's II; Merton bpd St Hugh's II, Queen's bpd St Hugh's II, Lady Margaret Hall II bpd St Hugh's II; Osler House II bpd Corpus Christi, New College II bpd Corpus Christi
FOURTH DIVISION: Pembroke II bpd Exeter II; St Catherine's II bpd Mansfield, New College III bpd University III; New College III bpd Mansfield; Keble II bpd Mansfield; Queen's II bpd Mansfield

Today's starting order

Men

FIRST DIVISION: Oriel Christ Church Brasenose, New College, University, Oriel II, Pembroke, Balliol Magdalen St Catherine's, Lady Margaret Hall St Edmund Hall
SECOND DIVISION: Hertford Worcester, Keble, Wolfson, Lincoln, St John's Jesus, Wadham Trinity, St Peter's Merton, Queen's
THIRD DIVISION: Christ Church II, Exeter University II, New College II Osler House, St Hugh's, Brasenose II St Anne's, Mansfield, Corpus Christi Oriel III, Balliol II
FOURTH DIVISION: Lincoln II St Catherine's II, Pembroke II Worcester II, Wolfson II, Hertford II, St Edmund Hall II Linacre, Queen's II, Exeter II St John's II, Lady Margaret Hall II
FIFTH DIVISION: Wadham, Keble II Worcester III, New College III Regent's Park, Oriel IV, Magdalen II, Queen's III Oriel V, Jesus II, St Anne's II St John's III
SIXTH DIVISION: Exeter III, St Peter's II Keble III, Christ Church III Brasenose III, Oriel VI, New College IV, Hertford III, University III, Merton II, St Hugh's II Osler House II
SEVENTH DIVISION: Balliol III, St Hugh's III, Magdalen III, Christ Church IV Magdalen IV, Exeter IV St Peter's III, St Antony's, Brasenose IV Merton III Mansfield II, Wadham III, Keble IV

Women

FIRST DIVISION: Somerville, Osler House, New College, Wadham, St Catherine's, Wolfson, Lady Margaret Hall, Brasenose, University, Keble, Pembroke, St Hilda's.
SECOND DIVISION: St Hugh's Trinity St Anne's, Worcester, Hertford Balliol, Christ Church, Oriel, St John's Somerville II, St Edmund Hall, Jesus
THIRD DIVISION: Lincoln Exeter St Peter's, Magdalen, Wadham II, Linacre, Merton, Queen's, Lady Margaret Hall II St Hugh's II Osler House II New College II
FOURTH DIVISION: Corpus Christi Oriel II Pembroke II Exeter II, Christ Church II, Magdalen II St Catherine's II New College III, University II Keble II Queen's II, Mansfield, University III.

Cambridge

Men

FIRST DIVISION: Jesus bpd Downing, Pembroke bpd LMBC Churchill bpd Selwyn Magdalene bpd Clare Fitzwilliam bpd LMBC II

SECOND DIVISION: Robinson bpd Jesus II Peterhouse bpd King's, Corpus Christi bpd Selwyn II LMBC III bpd Jesus II

THIRD DIVISION: Queens' II bpd Churchill II Fitzwilliam II bpd Christ's II, Peterhouse II bpd Clare III, Girton II bpd Darwin Veterinary School bpd LMBC IV 1st and 3rd Trinity III bpd Trinity Hall III.

FOURTH DIVISION: LMBC V bpd Addenbrooke's, St Catharine's II bpd CCAT Queens III bpd Selwyn III, Wolfson bpd King's II Robinson II bpd Sydney Sussex II St Edmunds House bpd Theological Colleges

FIFTH DIVISION: Corpus Christi III bpd Emmanuel III Queens IV bpd 1st and 3rd Trinity IV, Trinity Hall IV bpd Christ's IV; Magdalene IV bpd Sydney Sussex III, Clare IV bpd Fitzwilliam III King's II bpd Girton IV

Women

FIRST DIVISION: LMBC bpd Emmanuel, Jesus bpd Caius Queen's bpd New Hall Clare bpd Churchill Selwyn bpd Sydney Sussex Downing bpd Christ's Robinson bpd 1st and 3rd Trinity

SECOND DIVISION: Robinson bpd Pembroke Jesus II bpd Fitzwilliam, Corpus Christi bpd Newnham II, LMBC II bpd CCAT Magdalene overtopd Peterhouse, Emmanuel II bpd New Hall II Addenbrooke's bpd Churchill

THIRD DIVISION: Selwyn II bpd Wolfson Sydney Sussex II bpd Caius II, Queen's II bpd Christ's II Robinson II bpd 1st and 3rd Trinity II Magdalene II bpd Downing II

Today's starting order

Men

FIRST DIVISION: Trinity Hall, Jesus, Downing, Pembroke, LMBC, Caius, 1st and 3rd Trinity, Churchill, Selwyn, Emmanuel Queens', Magdalene, Clare, Christ's, Fitzwilliam, LMBC II.
SECOND DIVISION: St Catherine's, Robinson, Jesus II, 1st and 3rd Trinity II, Downing II, Caius II, Pembroke II, Peterhouse, King's, Girton, Corpus Christi, Selwyn II, Sydney Sussex, LMBC III, Jesus III, Trinity Hall II.
THIRD DIVISION: Clare II, Magdalene II, Emmanuel II, Queens' II, Churchill II, Fitzwilliam II, Christ's II, Peterhouse II, Clare III Corpus Christi II, Girton II, Darwin Veterinary School, LMBC IV, Churchill III, 1st and 3rd Trinity III
FOURTH DIVISION: Trinity Hall III, Magdalene III, LMBC V, Addenbrooke's, St Catharine's II, CCAT, Queens' III, Selwyn III Wolfson, King's II, Christ's III, Caius III Robinson II, Sydney Sussex II, St Edmund's House, Theological Colleges
FIFTH DIVISION: Downing III, Pembroke III Corpus Christi II, Emmanuel III, Jesus IV St Catharine's II, Queens' IV, 1st and 3rd Trinity IV, Queens V, Trinity Hall IV, Christ's IV Girton III, Magdalene IV, Sydney Sussex III, Clare IV, Fitzwilliam III, King's III Girton IV.

Women

FIRST DIVISION: LMBC, Emmanuel, Newnham Jesus, Caius, Trinity Hall, Queens', New Hall, Clare, Churchill, St Catharine's, Selwyn, Sydney Sussex, Girton, Downing, Christ's, Robinson.
SECOND DIVISION: 1st and 3rd Trinity, Pembroke Homerton, Jesus II, Fitzwilliam, OMABC, Corpus Christi, Newnham II Magdalene, LMBC II, CCAT, Peterhouse Clare II, Emmanuel II, New Hall II Addenbrooke's, Churchill II
THIRD DIVISION: Girton II, Selwyn II, Wolfson LMBC III, Sydney Sussex II, Caius II, Darwin, St Catharine's II, Homerton II, Queens' II, Christ's II, Robinson II 1st and 3rd Trinity II, Corpus Christi II Pembroke II, Magdalene II, Downing II, Trinity Hall II

HOCKEY

Leistra puts an end to British medal hopes

Netherlands 4
Great Britain 1

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN
IN KARACHI

GREAT Britain's hopes of reaching the play-offs for a medal disappeared here yesterday in an extraordinary match during which two men carved out a Dutch victory in the Champions Trophy.

Floris Bovelander converted three short corners in a row and Frank Leistra rescued the Dutch during a period of British dominance in the second half with some incredible saves. It was a sad day for the British team, which played its heart out.

Whereas the Dutch capitalised on short corners, Britain did not. Norman Hughes, the British coach, said: "The percentage that we stopped was too low. If they are not put out accurately, the guy making the stop is picking up the pieces.

"We have played all the hockey and we are losing. We should have come off the field with three goals for all our chances."

This was true particularly of the second half, when the Dutch were pinned in their own area but Britain were frustrated by Leistra.

After Bovelander converted two short corners, Clift scored for Britain from a mix-up in the Dutch defence.

But Bovelander put the Dutch 3-1 ahead in the 42nd minute and in the last minute Weterings, a substitute, scored from Marc Delissen's pass. Britain will now play for fifth place with France tomorrow. Today is a rest day.

NETHERLANDS: F Leistra, F Bovelander, W Van Pelt, M Crucq, B Portenaar, M Delissen (captain), J Bonkman, L Gebbink, S Vaan (sub: G Weterings); R Delissen, T van den Honert.
GREAT BRITAIN: S Rowlands, Soma Singh, P Bolland, J Potter, J Laskett, M Grimley, D Williams, S Nicklin (sub: J Lee), R Thompson (sub: R Garcia), R Clift (captain), S Kelly.
Umpires: J Cortazar (Sp) and Iqbal Bali (Pakistan).
OTHER RESULTS: Australia 9, France 1; Pakistan 3, Germany 4.

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Australia	5	4	0	1	21	8	8
Germany	5	4	0	1	13	8	8
Pakistan	5	3	0	2	12	6	6
Netherlands	5	3	0	2	12	9	6
Gt Britain	5	1	0	4	9	14	2
France	5	0	0	5	4	27	0

Frenchman is first hurdle for Andries on road to another world championship

Warrior who thrives on work

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT, IN MENTON

DENNIS Andries sets out tonight to establish himself as the contender for the world cruiserweight title by challenging Akim Tafer, of France, here for the European title, vacated by Johnny Nelson of Sheffield.

If Andries can lift the European crown, he would automatically become a contender and he believes that he could go on to win his second world title at a different weight. The World Boxing Council champion is Bobby Czyz, and Andries already has a points win over the American, gained when they were light-heavyweights.

Going by the records and the relative experience of Andries and Tafer, the Frenchman does not appear to be too great an obstacle to the Londoner's aspirations. But when one remembers that Andries is 38-years-old officially — probably 40 unofficially — and had a brutal battle last September with Jeff Harding, which would have sent most ageing fighters into retirement, the job does not look an easy one.

Andries arrived here on Tuesday from London and, as usual, is looking in tremendous shape. But one can never tell when the years will start showing. Certainly against Harding, Andries looked ring weary at times.

That could happen here as well, if Andries's first solid blows do not have the desired effect. The Frenchman is bigger than Harding, being 6ft 2½in and a full cruiserweight.

He has a solid jab and a good right hand. The two together, with his size, could frustrate Andries, who could run out of ideas and stamina, as he did against Harding the first time.

But Andries brushes aside talk about wars with Harding taking it out of him at his age. He said yesterday: "Wars? What wars? What people don't realise is that I get more taken out of me in the Kronk gym in Detroit than in fights.

"When you get in the ring with a world title opponent, he is always cagey, but in the gym they just feed me all these young, raw bloods. They all want to knock my block off. I'll know when they've succeeded because I'll wake up one morning with a sore head and the rest of my body will tell me it's time to quit.

"Age? What is age? In Britain we seem to make a big thing out of it. But if someone is a champion, what does it matter how old he is? There is no such thing as an old warrior in boxing. You are a warrior or you ain't. If people want to think of me as an old man, let them walk into the ring with me."

Tafer is young, but having had only 15 contests, of which he has won 12, he is unlikely to be able to carry the fight to a man of such wide experience as Andries. But Andries will need to put the pressure on him to keep him from gathering himself for the big punch. If Andries can do this, the Frenchman could lose heart and crumble.

☐ Colin McMillan, the British and Commonwealth featherweight champion, will meet Steve Thibodeaux, an American, in Dagenham on March 25.

"I decided to take on a dangerous opponent for this contest because too many people weren't satisfied with the way I performed in my last contest against Percy Commey," McMillan said yesterday.

☐ John Davison is to challenge Fabrice Benichou, of France, for his European featherweight title on May 15.

Hunting titles: Andries does not let advancing years blunt his enthusiasm

SNOOKER

Davis eases forward again

BY PHIL YATES

AS IN his heyday, Steve Davis dispatched an unfancied rival with consummate ease to reach the quarter-finals of the Pearl Assurance British Open in Derby yesterday. A 5-0 whitewash of Martin Clark, the world No. 14, was Davis's thirteenth successive win in ranking events.

While no one, including Davis himself, is suggesting that the six-times world and United Kingdom champion can reproduce his mid-1980s level of dominance, it appears increasingly likely that he is capable of sustaining his recent revival.

Davis, who ended 27 months without a ranking title at the Mercantile Credit Classic in January and consolidated by triumphing at the Asian Open, is looking and feeling more relaxed than ever. "I'm really enjoying my snooker again," he said. "Maybe that is because I'm pleased with myself for being able to raise my standard."

Four months ago, when Davis was still battling to re-establish himself, he was beaten 5-3 by Clark at the corresponding stage of the Dubai Classic. After Davis recovered from a 54-1 deficit to win yesterday's second frame on the black with a 55 clearance the possibility of a repeat faded.

Ken Doherty, from Dublin, recovered from a stomach upset to progress into the quarter-finals of a ranking tournament for only the second time by beating Eddie Charlton, of Australia, 5-2. Doherty, who surprised John Parrott, the world and United Kingdom champion, in the fourth round, compiled breaks of 81, 97 and 43.

RESULTS: Sixth round: S Davis (Eng) bt M Clark (Eng), 5-0. Frame scores (Davis first): 81-27, 56-54, 65-38, 55-28, 73-33. K Doherty (Rep of Ire) bt E Charlton (Aus), 5-2. Frame scores (Doherty first): 110-7, 70-53, 97-0, 0-71, 57-53, 20-82, 95-8.

RUGBY UNION

Injury-hit Wasps lose coach after unexpected defeat

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ROB Smith has resigned as coach of Wasps, the Courage clubs champions in 1990 and the runners-up last season. Although Smith, who joined the club as a playing member in 1974 and has coached for the last seven years, made his decision in the wake of last Saturday's disappointing league defeat by Saracens, he insists that is not the cause.

"I have a great deal of faith in the playing squad and the way the youth area of the club is developing," he said yesterday. "But there are some major issues in the game at the moment, which all clubs need to face, which we don't seem to be addressing with the urgency they require.

"By resigning I'm trying to stimulate some reaction. I want Wasps to stay at the top." Smith will remain a club member, with the coaching being done by Tony Jorden and Phil Moyle.

Wasps have been badly affected by a string of injuries and the loss to Toulouse of the influential Rob Andrew. However Damian Hopley, the England B centre, returns for Saturday's league game at London Irish after a long absence, and Jeff Probyn will be at tight-head prop.

David Egerton, the former England No. 8, plays his first league game of the season for Bath against Gloucester, at blind-side flanker. He displaces Steve Ojomoh after proving in five first-team games his recovery from a lengthy shoulder injury

Neil Back, the Leicester flanker, has been restored to the England B side which will play a strong Italian team in Rome on March 7. A neck injury forced him to withdraw from the B international against France.

Back was a try-scorer in both the other B internationals this season, when England beat Spain 34-3 and Ireland 47-15. His return is the only change to the XV which beat France 22-18, a consistency of selection which should serve England well when it comes to determining the party of 30 which will tour New Zealand in June.

☐ France will make an eight-match tour of Argentina this summer, including two internationals in Buenos Aires on July 4 and 11. They will leave shortly after their final domestic commitment of an intensely-long season, against Romania on June 20.

ENGLAND B: I Hunter (Northampton); J Fallon (Bath), P de Glanville (Bath), J Buckton (Saracens), T Underwood (Leicester); S Barnes (Bath, captain), S Bates (Wasps); G Baldwin (Northampton); G Dawe (Bath), A Mullins (Harlequins); M Greenwood (Nottingham), M Johnson (Leicester), D Sims (Gloucester), N Back (Leicester), B Clarke (Bath). Replacements: G Thompson (Harlequins), G Ainscough (Leicester), D Scully (Wakefield), V Ubogu (Bath), R Cockerill (Coventry), J Cassell (Saracens).

FOOTBALL

Billing is banned for indiscretion

The Coventry City defender, Peter Billing, has been banned for three games and fined £500 by the Football Association. He was found guilty of making comments to the referee, Tony Ward, after last month's FA Cup third-round replay at Cambridge.

The **Sheffield Wednesday** forward, Nigel Jemson, has returned to full training five weeks after being hurt in a car crash. It was feared that he might be out for two months but the £800,000 signing from Nottingham Forest hopes to be in contention for the match at Chelsea on Saturday.

The veteran **Wimbledon** forward, Alan Cork, has won the backing of the Players' Union in his attempt to force through a free transfer move to **Sheffield United**.

The owner of the club, Sam Hamman, wants Cork to stay at least until the end of the season. Hamman has offered a new contract to the player.

The former **Southampton** manager, Chris Nicholl, has put himself in the running for the vacant manager's job at **Bristol City**. The former Northern Ireland international defender has applied for the vacancy created by the sacking of Jimmy Lumsden.

TENNIS

Camporese loses after on-court treatment

Rotterdam: Omar Camporese, who upset Ivan Lendl to win last year's final, suffered from pains in his arm and was beaten by Jan Apell, a Swedish qualifier, in the first round of the world indoor tournament yesterday.

The Italian, who is seeded fourth here and ranked eighteenth in the world, needed help from a physiotherapist during the game. He carried on, but lost 6-4, 6-2. He was the second seed to lose in the first round — Jonas Svensson, of Sweden, the No. 8 seed, went out on Monday.

Stefan Edberg, the top seed, beat Patrick Bauer, of Germany, 6-4, 7-6 and will need to overcome second and third seeds Boris Becker and Lendl in his campaign to narrow the gap on the world No. 1, Jim Courier.

☐ Martina Navratilova withdrew from the Evert Cup at Indian Wells, California, with flu. Navratilova won a record 158th title in Chicago earlier this month. *(Agencies)*

RUGBY UNION: FINALISTS ARE DECIDED FOR UNIVERSITIES CHAMPIONSHIP

Durham rally just in time to deny Imperial's glory

Durham Univ 12
Imperial College 7

BY MICHAEL AUSTIN

A LACKLUSTRE performance by Durham, despite their victory, should not detract from the sparkle of Imperial, a London University college, who lost a seven-point lead only during the final 15 minutes in the Universities Athletic Union semi-final at Beeston, Nottingham, yesterday.

Tactical aberrations, especially the failure to use a stiffening breeze after half-time, were as responsible for Durham's difficulties as their fumbling hands. They failed to use possession adequately, with poor kicking, having earlier struggled to counter Imperial's ball-winning capacity.

Durham celebrated their first appearance for five years in the final, against Loughborough at Twickenham on March 18, with as much a sense of relief as elation. They won the competition four times in the 1980s, the most recent when Will Carling was at centre.

Imperial's record did not bear comparison but their fifth consecutive south-east group title and six previous wins in seven games overall, with an average of 34 points a match, threw down a challenge which Durham picked up ponderously.

This was Imperial's first appearance beyond the last 16 and their elevated status was deserved. David Fleming, playing alongside Andrew, his twin brother, ran in a twelfth-minute try from the base of a ruck, from a drive by Fowler, of Rosslyn Park, and Montgomery, an influential scrum half in Imperial's progress. His kicking was insistent and impeccable, thrusting Durham backwards into a cauldron of defensive uncertainty.

Paynter added a penalty goal for Imperial soon after half-time and only a frantic revival among Durham's forwards, featuring Stamford and Keller, won the positions from which Greenwood landed an easy penalty goal and Sibson drove Fennell over for a try, which Canning converted.

Greenwood landed a second penalty goal from 45 yards in the final minute and Imperial rued their lack of experience which enabled Durham to steal a victory they barely deserved and strengthen their drive for a ninth title, compared with Loughborough's 23.

SCORERS: Durham University: Try: Fennell. Conversion: Canning. Penalty goals: Greenwood (2). Imperial College: Try: D Fleming. Penalty: Paynter.
DURHAM UNIVERSITY: R Wellens; J Yeldham, N Canning, M Yeabsley, W Parks; W Greenwood, N Coulter; B Fennell, J Hamilton-Smith, C Stamford, A Kane, D Sibson, D Horsley, N Keller, B Richardson.
IMPERIAL COLLEGE: N Flynn; D Bolton, S Bicknell, A Fleming (rep R Stubbs), D Fleming; S Paynter, A Montgomery; D Corbett, R Carr, A Cadden, C Telling, L Marquis, J Sepwell, L Orr, J Fowler.
Referee: R Bullock (Leicestershire).

Loughborough's luck holds out

Loughborough Univ 21
Bristol Univ 13

BY MICHAEL STEVENSON

LOUGHBOROUGH, who have dominated the Universities Athletic Union competition in recent years, were kindly served by the run of the ball at Worcester yesterday, where they won a pulsating semi-final by two goals, a dropped goal and two penalties to Bristol's try and three penalties. There was even less in it than the score suggests.

Malone, Loughborough's Ireland Under-21 stand-off half, kicked precisely but made virtually no attempt to use his backs, while for the losers, Bracken, at scrum half, and Seecharan, at No. 8, were outstanding.

De Brunner's early penalty earned Bristol a temporary lead. Malone hoisted into the wind: the ball landed over the Bristol line but bounced backwards and Sanderson, gathering on the half-volley, was over for a try, which Malone converted. Malone and De Brunner exchanged penalties

The lead changed again in fine fashion. Harries fed Jones in the Bristol centre and his long, weaving run ended when he slipped the ball to Bracken, who gave the full back, Dalwood, the scoring pass. Bristol led 10-9 at the interval.

Malone swung the game with his kicking. Having missed one long-range penalty, he put the next one over and then dropped a goal. De Brunner pulled back a penalty but Loughborough sealed matters when Dawson chipped and scored.

SCORERS: Loughborough University: Tries: Sanderson Dawson. Conversions: Malone (2) Penalties: Malone (2) Dropped goal: Malone. Bristol University: Try: Dalwood. Penalties: De Brunner (3)
LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY: C Dossett; M Nicholson, M Dawson, T Sanderson, M Wisheart; N Malone, P Miles; D Lockyer, A Read, N Lowton, K Middleton, A Dupree, D Jones, N Richardson, P Irons.
BRISTOL UNIVERSITY: A Dalwood; P Mitchell, S Maslin, M Jones, A de Brunner; G Hames, K Bracken; C Agnew, A Packer, A Cassidy, A Jardine-Brown, O Johnson, S Roy, A Maynard, K Seecharan.
Referee: A Spence (Warwickshire).

Points restored

Hockey: The appeals committee of the Hockey Association restored two points to Indian Gymkhana and cancelled the fine of £200 imposed on the club after their January 26 national league match against Stourport.

Bubka absent

Athletics: Sergei Bubka, the world pole vault champion, will miss the European indoor championships in Genoa. Organisers said the championships did not figure in Bubka's plans.

Sponsorship cut

Viktor Galayev, the general manager of Sovintersport, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) foreign trade association, said yesterday that Adidas, the German sports firm, had severed a sponsorship deal, cutting off funds just months before the Barcelona Olympics. He said CIS sports authorities planned to take Adidas to court to recover at least $800,000.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Hanley to return on Sunday

Ellery Hanley, the Great Britain and Leeds captain, returns from injury in the championship match against St Helens on Sunday.

A calf muscle injury delayed his comeback from a broken jaw.

☐ The Great Britain Under-21 squad to play France at Halifax on March 6 includes seven new selections — Barrie-Jon Mather, Jason Donohue, Augustine O'Donnell, Richard Picksley, Mike Riley, Paul Bonson and Richard Slater.

Cambridge team

Golf: John Young, a former Oxford Divot, is in the Cambridge team for the University match at Royal Cinque Ports from March 20.

TEAM: * C J Dale (Trinity Hall), * R O Kelly (Christ Church), * B Ingleby (Fitzwilliam), * C J Ambler (Queens'), * J James (Selwyn), A Powell (Corpus Christi), J Young (Churchill), M Williamson (Fitzwilliam), P Crawley (Trinity Hall) and M Fleischer (Robinson). Reserves: O Turnbull (Clare Hall), J Hudson (Christ's).
* a blue

Disabled awards

Sport for the disabled: *The Times* was yesterday commended in the British Sports Association for the Disabled media awards, supported by Grand Metropolitan.

WINNERS: Television, The Big Eight, Channel 4; radio, BBC World Service, regional newspapers, Nottingham Evening Post; national newspapers, Daily Telegraph; Frank Bruno commendation, Challenge Anneka, BBC Television.

Hackett funeral

The funeral of Desmond Hackett, the *Daily Express* sports journalist, will be held at Lambeth Crematorium, Blackshaw Road, Tooting, SW17, on March 3 at 10.30am.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Ipswich 3, Fulham 2. QPR 1 Luton 3

Late results on Tuesday

BARCLAYS LEAGUE: First division: Crystal Palace 1, Luton 1 Notts County 1 Wimbledon 1 Second division: Cambridge 2, Blackburn 1 Third division: Bury 1 Chester 2 Huddersfield 1 Hull City 1 Fourth division: Crewe 1 York City 0 Hereford 0 Mansfield 1

AUTOGLASS TROPHY: Southern section: Quarter-finals: Fulham 0 Wrexham 2, Peterborough 1 Exeter 0

B AND Q SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Alloa 4, Cowdenbeath 2 Berwick 1, Queens Park 3, Dumbarton 1 Brechin 3

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Slough 1, Cheltenham 3.

FA TROPHY: Third round replay: Wycombe 2, Bath 0

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Brighton 4, Charlton 0, Chelsea 2 Southampton 1, Watford 2 Reading 0

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Everton 1, Barnsley 3, Rotherham 0 Leeds 3; Rotherham 0 Leeds 3 Sheff Wed 0, Bolton 3 Postponed: Bradford v Blackburn. Second division: Preston 1 Oldham 1

IRISH LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Ballyclare Comrades 1 Ards 3 Ballymena 3 Newry 0; Coleraine 0 Dundalk 2 Crusaders 3, H & W Welders 1; Glenavon 4 Glentoran 0; Larne 4 Distillery 2 (aet) Omagh Town 1 Linfield 2 Portadown 4 Carrick 1

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Crawley Town 0 Gravesend 1 Midland division: Bilston Town 3, Barry Town 0, Newport AFC 0 Stourbridge 4, Rushden Town 1 Alvechurch 0 Tamworth 0 Yate Town 0 Southern division: Baldock Town 2 Burnham 1

HADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 0 Aylesbury 0 Bromley 0 Windsor & Eton 1 Enfield 3 Dagenham 5 St Albans 1 Hendon 1 Wivenhoe 2 Hayes 0 First division: Abingdon Town 1 Boreham Wood 2 Dorking 3 Aveley 1 Wembley 1, Maidenhead Utd 2 Yeading 0, Hitchin 2. Second division: Harefield Utd 0, Worthing 1, Metropolitan Police 0 Lewes 3 Third division: Bracknell Town 1, Horsham 4, Hertford Town 0, Chertsey Town 3 Tilbury 2 Edgware Town 1 Isthmian League Cup: Fourth round: Replay: Ware 1, Carshalton 0 Loctite Trophy: Fourth round: Egham Town 2 Thame Utd 0; Maiden Vale 6, Barton Rovers 0 Purfleet 3 Ruislip Manor 0

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Goole 2 Accrington Stanley 4 Challenge Cup: Fourth round: Buxton 1 Guiseley 2 Stalybridge 0 Frickley 2 Third round replay: Matlock Town 1 Rossendale Utd 0

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: March Town Utd 0 Histon 1

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Penrith 0 Blackpool Rovers 5 Tennents Floodlit Trophy: Bacup Borough 3 Atherton Collieries 0 Darwen 2 Ashton Utd 3 St Helens Town 2 Prescot 2

SPANISH CUP: Quarter-final: Valence 0 Real Madrid 0 (agg 1-2)

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Adidas under-19 trophy: Regional semi-final: Norfolk 5 Sussex 2 Under-15 trophy: Suffolk 0 Inner London 2 Southeast England under-16 county championship: Suffolk 0 Inner London 5

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Charlotte Hornets 94 Milwaukee Bucks 82 New Jersey Nets 108 Boston Celtics 95 Detroit Pistons 108 Chicago Bulls 106 San Antonio Spurs 123 Miami Heat 101 Utah Jazz 106 Los Angeles Clippers 101

RACKETS

SCHOOLS MATCH: Tonbridge (G Constant and N W Heap) bt Harrow (C Danby and H Foster) 15-9 17-16 3-15 15-7 11-15 7-15 15-10

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Combined Services doubles championship: Semi-finals: A Wason and J English bt T Breitmeyer and A James 15-8 P Roe and J Edwardes bt B Aitken and P Watts 12-6 Final: Mason and English bt Roe and Edwardes 6-4 6-0

Philip Bainbridge: 79 not out for Durham

TENNIS

ROTTERDAM: Men's tournament: First round: J Siemerink (Neth) bt C Saceanu (Ger) 2-6 7-5, 7-6; I Lendl (Cz) bt J Gunnarsson (Swe), 6-7, 6-1, 6-0; T Nissen (Neth) bt E Masso (Bel), 6-3, 6-1. A Volkov (CIS) bt M Larsson (Swe), 6-7, 6-4, 6-3, P Haarhuis (Neth) bt M-K Goellner (Ger), 6-2 6-2 P McEnroe (US) bt H Leconte (Fr), 6-6 rtd J Grabb (US) bt L Koelowski (Ger) 6-1 6-2. J Apell (Swe) bt O Camporese (It), 6-4, 6-2, A Jarryd (Swe) bt D Nargiso (It) 6-2, 7-6, S Edberg (Swe) bt P Baur (Ger) 6-4 7-6

CROYDON: LTA men's indoor satellite tournament: J Bates (Surrey) bt S Cole (Surrey) 6-2 6-2 B Joelson (US) bt B Cowan (Lancs) 6-4, 6-4; D Bosse (SA) bt R Eriksson (Swe), 6-3, 6-4; D Sapsford (Surrey) bt A Foster (Staffs), 7-6, 6-3, M Petchey (Essex) bt A Dalboni (It), 7-6, 6-3, B Curry (SA) bt D Gerwald (Swe), 6-4, 6-4; A Richardson (Lincs) bt J Turner (Avon), 6-4 7-6 N Broad (unattached) bt K Uliyett (SA) 6-4 6-4 M Barnard (SA) bt C Beecher (Kent) 6-4, 6-2; M Ardinghi (It) bt D Ison (Leics) 3-6 6-3, 7-6, C Falk (Swe) bt C Brandi (It) 6-3, 6-4, R Koenig (SA) bt B Garrow (US) 2-6, 6-2, 6-1; C Bailey (Norfolk) bt M Maclagan (Scot), 6-4, 6-4; L Matthews (Hants) bt D Kirk (Lincs), 4-6, 6-4 6-4

INDIAN WELLS, California: Evert Cup women's tournament: First round: G Helgeson (US) bt R White (US), 6-1, 1-6, 6-3 K Rinaldi (US) bt V Milvidskaia (CIS), 7-5 6-4 R Fairbank-Nideffer (SA) bt N Van Lottum (Fr) 6-3 6-3 N Provis (Aus) bt I Demongeot (Fr) 6-3 6-3 P Nelson (US) bt K Godridge (Aus) 7-6, 6-1 K Dreyer (US) bt M De Swardt (SA), 6-1, 1-6, 7-6 Second round: T Whitinger (US) bt J Watanabe (US) 2-6, 6-1 7-5 C Martinez (Spi bt S Rehe (US), 6-4, 7-6, M Seles (Yug) bt E Reinach (SA), 6-1, 5-1; A Grossman (US) bt C Lindqvist (Swe), 6-2, 6-4 K Maleeva (Bul) bt J Emmons (US), 6-2 6-0 N Tauziat (Fr) bt R Alter (Can), 6-1, 6-2

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona: Purex Tennis Championships: Men: Singles: First round: T Champion (Fr) bt T Muster (Austria) 4-1 ret S Pescodolido (It) bt A Mansdorf (Isr) 6-4 6-3, M Rush (Ven) bt D Rostagno (US) 7-6 (7-4) 6-4 M Rossetti (Switz) bt M Kas (US) 7-6 (7-4), 6-4, B Gilbert (US) bt M Zoecke (Ger), 6-7, 7-6, 7-5 E Sanchez (Sp) bt H Skoff (Austria), 6-3 6-0 A Mancini (Arg) bt W Masur (Aus), 5-7 6-4 6-4, J Yzaga (Peru) bt J Connors (US), 7-5 4-6, 6-3, A Agassi (US) bt F Clavet (Sp) 6-2 6-1.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Abertillery 24, Swansea 3

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Durham 316-6 dec (M Briers 132 not out, W Larkins 71, C Scott 47) and 202-4 dec (P Bainbridge 79 not out, S Hutton 54). Zimbabwe XI 262-6 dec (G Crocker 63 not out, G Martin 61; D A Graveney 3-82) and 205-9 (M Dekker 66, P Berry 4-58, D Graveney). Match drawn

RED STRIPE CUP: Basseterre: Trinidad & Tobago 322 and 115 (H A G Anthony 4-23). Leeward Islands 478 (E Antoine 6-117) Leeward Islands won by innings and 41 runs

CYCLING

SANT'AGATA DI MILITELLO, Sicily. Tour of Sicily: Fourth stage (from Tindari, 185 km, Italians unless stated) 1, M Argentin, 5hr 8min 38sec. 2. S Colage, 3, A Zulle (Switz). 4, M Scandri. 5, M Den Bakker (Neth). 6. S Zanini, all same time

Overall standings: 1, Zulle, 17hrs 22min 37sec; 2, Argentin, at 4sec; 3, P Anderson (Aus), 4, Scandri, both at 43

ETON FIVES

SHREWSBURY: Northern tournament: Quarter-finals: R Mason and J Mole bt R Burgess and P Holland, 3-0, J Pearson and R Harris bt J Penner and J Chapman, 3-1; A Wass and A Taylor bt G Williams and J Dale, 3-1; A Hughes and R Lambert bt J Caudle and R Tyler, 3-0. Semi-finals: Mason and Mole bt Pearson and Harris, 3-1. Wass and Taylor bt Hughes and Lambert, 3-0. Final: Mason and Mole bt Wass and Taylor, 3-0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): St Louis Blues 5, Hartford Whalers 2. New York Rangers 4, Chicago Black Hawks 1; Philadelphia Flyers 4 New York Islanders 1. New Jersey Devils 5, Toronto Maple Leafs 5 (OT). Washington Capitals 5, Pittsburgh Penguins 3. Buffalo Sabres 5, Calgary Flames 3 Los Angeles Kings 4, Vancouver Canucks 3

SQUASH RACKETS

PIMM'S PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Leakes Welsh Wizards 3 A and P Rackets 1 (C Robertson bt C Keith, 9-2, 9-6, 9-3, P Marshall bt R Graham, 10-8, 9-1, 9-0, A Davies bt D Webb, 5-9, 10-8, 9-1, 2-9, 9-7, P Carter lost to G Wilson, 3-9, 10-9, 9-5, 6-9, 9-10. League positions: Wizards, 66pts; Lambs, 59. Cannons, 47; Priory, 45; North Walsham, 27. Rackets, 24; Northern, 13; Surbiton, 11.
WOMEN'S SUPERLEAGUE: Mossac Priory 0, Reebok Nottingham 3 (M Martin lost to S Horner, 9-10, 9-5, 9-5, 4-9, 4-9; R Poole lost to R Best, 6-9, 6-9, 4-9, J Dymmock lost to J Mamm, 0-9, 3-9, 4-9; Lee On Solent 0, Talking Pages Windsor 3 (L Soutter lost to M Le Moignan, 0-9, 1-9, 0-9; L Charman lost to S FitzGerald, 5-9, 5-9, 9-6, 2-9; C Mett lost to C Nitch, 0-9, 6-9, 9-5, 7-9) League positions: Courtlands, 27pts. Windsor, 25; Nottingham, 23; Solent, 14, Priory, 7
TENNENT'S LA SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Colinton Castle bt Forthill, 3-2; SSRC bt Glasgow Acads, 4-1, Bridge of Allan I bt Edinburgh SC, 5-0; Dunfermline bt Bridge of Allan II, 5-0 Second division: Whitecraigs bt BP Grangemouth, 3-2. Glasgow Acads II bt Inverness II, 3-2.

THE TIMES
SPORT
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27 1992

Government pledges £55m for Manchester

BY DAVID MILLER

JOHN Major yesterday threw his hat into the Olympic arena. The Conservative government's immediate commitment of £55 million to Manchester's construction facilities in the bid to host the Olympic Games has transformed the global race for 2000.

Politically, the prime minister has set rolling a programme that can reward, not just British sport, but the social environment of the northwest.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC), and the five representative votes from both the collective international sports federations and the national Olympic committees, now face a choice substantially realigned by the massive modernisation that urban Manchester can promise. Sir Arthur Gold, chairman of the British Olympic Association, called the prime minister's intervention "the most heartening statement British sport has heard since 1948", the year Britain last hosted the Games.

"We are at square one, for the first time we are properly on the playing board." Bob Scott, Manchester's chairman, said last night. "The bid starts here."

The British campaign can offer tradition and history, together with a guaranteed legacy for future sport, whether or not it is successful in next year's vote in Monte Carlo. The prime minister, speaking outside Downing Street, said: "We will also give full ministerial and diplomatic support, both here and abroad. If the bid is successful, we will contribute to the provision of those facilities which will be needed for the Olympic Games. This bid must not be looked at in isolation. The aim is not only to win the Games for their own sake, but to use them to spearhead the regeneration of east Manchester."

Under new public relations direction, Manchester will set about informing IOC members that they will be offered a bid substantially advanced from that for 1996; that in the coming 18 months the IOC is invited to inspect a bid that has shifted from green fields west of Manchester to urban east Manchester and a redevelopment comparable to Barcelona's regeneration for this summer.

A velodrome and indoor arena will be taking shape by the time of the vote; and the site will be prepared for a main stadium — an update of the 1972 stadium in Munich — that both Manchester football clubs are interested in using, and Wembley fancies managing.

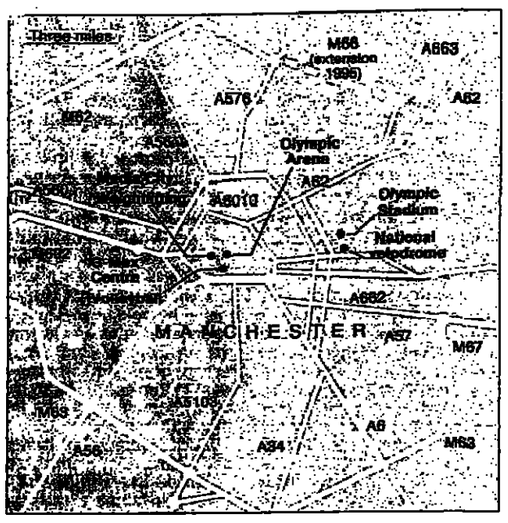
Manchester's budget is for £1.2 billion on facilities and £4 billion on regeneration. This directly compares with Barcelona's expenditure on sites and infrastructure.

Major called Manchester's bid "a mouth-watering millenium prize". A clear commitment has been given that the government will help meet the objectives for 2000 if the bid succeeds. Graham Stringer, the Labour leader of the Manchester council, said that planning research already completed would ensure that facilities met long-term requirement and would not be debt-ridden white elephants. "It cannot be often," Stringer said with a smile, "that a Labour council leader would be shaking hands with a Conservative prime minister at Downing Street a few weeks before a general election."

Yesterday's meeting included Michael Heseltine (environment minister), Kenneth Clarke (education) and Chris Patten. The government will not impose its own financial management, but has been invited to have a presence on the executive committee. Heseltine yesterday observed that premature completion of the main stadium could forfeit maximum modernisation for 2000. It is evident that the government has an exact measurement of the consequences of staging the Games.

It should now be possible for Manchester to convince the IOC that it will be the most coherent European bid. If Manchester can substantially improve public relations — a critical factor with the subjective IOC — the city can upstage the environmental but distant attraction of Sydney, and the slightly unfashionable bid of Peking. Inexperienced Brasilia, capital of a financially weak country, must be rank outsiders.

Now that controls should have eliminated any attempted corruption by a tiny minority of IOC members, and rationalisation of the voting system should have been ratified at the Barcelona Games, Manchester is in an equal race in which it can perhaps prove more equal than most. The Labour Party has stated that it would fulfil any commitment made by the present government if elected.



The Olympic venues in central and east Manchester

Referee should promote rucking game

Scotland name unaltered side to meet French

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND, keeping pace with England and Wales, will field an unchanged XV against France at Murrayfield on March 7. The players who bounced back from the home defeat by England to beat Ireland in Dublin have predictably retained the selectors' confidence to meet opponents who have not won in Edinburgh since 1978.

Injuries to Craig Chalmers, Paul Burnell and Neil Edwards are expected to have cleared up by then; Chalmers, the stand-off half, damaged a leg playing for Melrose against Boroughmuir last weekend and may miss Saturday's game with Stirling County. Burnell, the prop, turned an ankle and may not play for London Scottish against Bedford, but Edwards, who broke his nose playing against Ireland, hopes to play for Harlequins in the league match with Bristol.

Duncan Paterson, the Scottish team manager, said that Edwards had played particularly well in his two games "and seems to have the ability to make others around him play well." Edwards's predecessor as front jumper, Chris Gray, of Nottingham, has had such limited rugby after recovering from Achilles tendon trouble that he has yet to challenge for a place.

"There were a lot of good points about the performance in Dublin, notably the fact that we won away from home and the overall tactical awareness of the team, which is now gaining in experience," Paterson said. "The French are a big, physical side containing players used to high-class rugby every week. I would discount the result against England. France gave the English a lot of trouble early in the game."

Paterson welcomed the appointment of Freek Burger, the South African referee. "We always enjoy having southern-hemisphere referees. They always allow us to play a rucking game," he said. The Scots will play for the first time in their new change-strip of white jerseys with thin blue bands and white shorts.

The game is a landmark for Derek White, the London Scottish No. 8, who plays in his fortieth international. In the opinion of Ian McGeechan, the Scottish coach, White played "probably his best game for Scotland" in Dublin on a day when the windy conditions created an absolute necessity for controlled rugby.

When Scotland tour Australia this summer, they may find their hosts without two of their most talented players. David Campese and Michael Lynagh are both playing in Italy, and their respective clubs, Milan and Treviso, may meet to decide the Italian championship on June 6, shortly before the first Australia v Scotland match.

Campese, who last night added the Rugby Union Writers' Club personality of the year award in London to that of the Australian Society of Rugby Writers, has been invited to play for the South African Barbarians on March 22 against Transvaal, *but may not have the time to accept.*

SCOTLAND: A G Hastings (Watsonians); A G Stanger (Hawick), S Hastings (Watsonians), S R P Linsen (Boroughmuir), I Tukalo (Selkirk); C M Chalmers (Melrose), A D Nicol (Dundee HSFP); D M B Sole (Edinburgh Academicals, captain), K S Milne (Heriot's FP), A P Burnell (London Scottish), D J McIvor (Edinburgh Academicals), N G B Edwards (Harlequins), G W Weir (Melrose), I R Smith (Gloucester), D B White (London Scottish). Replacements: P W Dods (Gala), A G Stewart (Melrose), G H Oliver (Hawick), R I Wainwright (Edinburgh Academicals), P M Jones (Gloucester), J Allan (Edinburgh Academicals).

More rugby, page 29

Astre calls for fair approach

Toulouse: Richard Astre, the French rugby union manager, yesterday told his team, who had two players sent off in their last match, to clean up their act for the match with Scotland at Murrayfield on March 7.

The front-row forwards, Grégoire Lascubé and Vincent Moscato, were sent off in France's 31-13 defeat by England in Paris 11 days ago and were subsequently banned for six months.

Astre addressed the 21-man French squad at a training camp in Toulouse, stressing "the absolute necessity to respect the ethics of fair play at all times".

"That doesn't mean my players are today resentful against the English, on the contrary. If this feeling may exist among some fans, it is absolutely out of place among the players. I did not even need to remind them of that," Astre said.

Having a ball: South Africa's players, appearing in their first World Cup, celebrate the dismissal of Border for nought as Australia sink to defeat in Sydney. Photograph: Graham Morris. Report, page 28

S Africa ready for May return

BY CHRIS THAU

AN INTERNATIONAL against either Italy or Romania, *probably in May*, will signal the end of South Africa's rugby union isolation. They are to undertake a four-match tour, including two internationals, to prepare for a strenuous home season that includes visits by Australia and New Zealand.

Their last official international was against England in 1984, although they awarded caps against the New Zealand Cavaliers in 1986 and against an International XV in 1989. "We need an overseas tour to build spirit and character and it would be extremely unwise to tackle the Wallabies without such a practice run against relatively weaker opposition," Danie Craven, president of the newly formed South African Rugby Football Union (SARFU), said.

South Africa's intense summer will be followed by an equally busy autumn, with tours to both France and England. Yesterday, the French federation confirmed the dates for a nine-match visit by a party of 30: they will arrive on September 29 and the itinerary, between October 3 and 31, will include internationals on October 17 and 24, the second in Paris.

France's anti-apartheid Socialist government yesterday gave the go-ahead for the tour, and also for a French squad to visit South Africa next year.

The sports minister, Frederique Bredin, said the decision, which is conditional on the two South African rugby federations officially merging next month, reflected "the positive development in the process of desegregation of South African sport".

Craven confirmed the visit to Europe, though this may have embarrassed officials of the SARFU, who had decided to embargo the story until next month, when the official launch of the union, already operating smoothly since last December, was scheduled.

The Australian tour to South Africa is in August, though the unions have yet to decide the venue for the international. The Australians wish to avoid the effects of playing at high altitude in Johannesburg; the South Africans, though, are keen to play at Ellis Park as it brings twice the gate revenue of any other venue.

The All Blacks plan to follow the Wallabies, whose international will be on August 22. Eddie Tonks, the New Zealand council chairman, said various options had been *considered for a four-match* tour to the republic: "It is very difficult to schedule the tour due to various restrictions," he said.

"On the one hand is the Wallaby tour in August and on the other the departure of South Africa for France at the end of September. In addition, we have to make sure that we don't upset our own revamped provincial championship."

☐ Steve Thomas, the Coventry and former England Under-23 scrum half, will make his 300th appearance for the club against West Hartlepool in the Courage Clubs Championship second division match at Coundon Road on Saturday.

ITV can expect rivals in bidding

RICK Parry, the chief executive of the Premier League, warned ITV yesterday that it faces strong opposition in its £80 million bid to win a contract for exclusive football coverage.

Greg Dyke, the chairman of ITV Sport, has declared himself "confident of winning" the battle to screen the Premier League that kicks off on August 15.

Parry however, sounded a note of caution when he said: "We're delighted ITV is so enthusiastic about the potential of the Premier League. But there are other strong bidders in the market place and to suggest that a deal is about to be signed is, to say the least, premature.

"We've made it very clear that every bid will be considered properly and fully before a decision is reached. We also require negotiations to be conducted in strict confidence and, for our part, we intend to proceed on that basis."

The closing date for sealed bids was supposed to be last Friday, but BSkyB was allowed an extension for its package. "We do know that other serious bids have been prepared and that those options will be presented to the chairmen of the first division clubs who will collectively make the final decision.

"We are giving this the highest priority," Parry said. He has already spoken to the Swiss Bank Corporation about selling Premier League matches to a football-only satellite channel, while BSkyB and the BBC will be vying for a share of the action.

But Dyke remains confident. ITV's existing four-year index-linked arrangement with the Football League — worth around £50 million — expires this summer, and any Premier League tie-up could well include a sponsorship element.

Meanwhile, Sir John Quinton, chairman of the Premier League and also Barclays, the Football League backer, said yesterday: "We are reviewing our current sponsorship in view of the coming Premier League." The suggestion is that Sir John will want to renegotiate the existing deal which has another year to run.

Borg back to beat and impress Lloyd

BY ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

AFTER the failure of his comeback last year, more than a little scepticism will greet Bjorn Borg's latest return to the courts in an exhibition in Los Angeles. But his opponent, John Lloyd, the former British No. 1, sounds a note of caution to those who judged the Swede scornfully and hastily in the wake of his humiliation in Monte Carlo nearly 12 months ago.

"You will have to give him ten more matches before judging him fairly, but if he picks his surfaces and takes his time, he could make the top 100 again and that would be some achievement," he said.

Armed with a graphite racket instead of the trusted wooden one with which he won five Wimbledon and six French open titles, and with countless hours of practise behind him, Borg has emerged once more, at the age of 35, to test his ageing skills.

In his first match since losing to Jordi Arrese last April, Borg beat Lloyd 6-4, 6-3 in front of a crowd of 8,500 at the Forum in Los Angeles on Tuesday night, and Lloyd believes the Swede is much better prepared this time.

"He said that last year he was mentally ready but not properly prepared physically," Lloyd added. "With his new racket, he gets more power but he makes more errors. It's like a foreign weapon to him because he's gone straight from one end of the scale to the other and he will need more time to adapt, but his speed is very good and he is very keen. He hasn't had a day off court in four months."

Borg switched rackets immediately after his defeat by Arrese and has been practising hard with it. This weekend, the Swede, who has played just one match on the tour in eight years, will compete against such great names as Rod Laver, John Newcombe and Ken Rosewall in the first of a series of ATP over-35s tournaments, in Indian Wells. If all goes well, Borg aims to return to the full tour in Nice and Monte Carlo in April.

Lloyd gave Borg eight out of ten for his performance in the exhibition, but Borg himself was rather more circumspect. "I think I can play better than this," he said. "I didn't really know what to expect. I'm trying not to put pressure on myself. My ambition is simply to play good tennis again.

The one danger, says Lloyd, is that Borg will rush back on to the full tour too quickly. "If I were him, I would aim to be ready after Wimbledon. What he needs is matches, and he really doesn't want to go in for a big tournament without being match fit. He has to be like George Foreman and take it slowly."

Meanwhile, Jeremy Bates, the British No. 1, has still not decided whether he will compete in the doubles at the Olympics.

Bates and Neil Broad gained a direct entry into the main draw for Barcelona, but because Bates did not get a place in the singles, he decided not to compete at all. "I'll have to think about it now because I don't want to let anyone down," he said.

Yesterday, Bates continued his unbeaten run in the third week of the LTA satellite series, beating Sean Cole 6-2 6-2 in Croydon. There were other British wins for Andrew Richardson, Mark Petchey, Danny Sapsford and Neil Broad.

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FILMS

Veronique or Weronika? The double life of Irène Jacob

LIFE & TIMES

SL THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27 1992

APPOINTMENTS

Thirteen pages of top management jobs

A true master receives his due

The National's superb new staging of *Uncle Vanya* confirms the genius of Chekhov, writes Benedict Nightingale

DONALD COOPER

Victims of Russia and themselves: Ian McKellen (centre) and Antony Sher in *Uncle Vanya* at the Cottesloe. Together they leave us feeling there is exceptional interest in what are unexceptional lives

Less funny than *The Cherry Orchard*, less powerful and painful than *The Three Sisters*, less crisp and pointed than *The Seagull* — *Uncle Vanya* is still sometimes described as the least accessible of Chekhov's four major plays. Yet which was the piece that first established a reputation in this country that is now second only to Shakespeare's?

Not *The Cherry Orchard*, whose opening night back in 1911 barely survived the second interval, so many of the audience flounced out. Not *The Three Sisters*, whose first, botched production in 1920 reduced the stalls to nervous titters in all the wrong places. No, it was *Uncle Vanya* six years earlier.

At its first night in 1914 Shaw turned to a critic and said, with every appearance of meaning it, "When I hear Chekhov, I want to tear my own plays up". And the critics themselves proceeded to eat, or at least radically re-chew, the words they had uttered only three years before.

A.B. Walkley of *The Times* had thought *The Cherry Orchard* "queer, outlandish, even silly": *Uncle Vanya* impressed him as a humane picture of "a world of talkers without listeners", people whose characters blended "the good and bad, weakness and strength". For Desmond MacCarthy it was "an unforgettably good play", the more tragic for the sheer ordinariness of Chekhov's victims, suffocating in their everyday atmosphere of "sighs and yawns and self-reproaches, vodka, endless tea and endless discussion".

For confirmation of the prescience of those views of Chekhov, and the pull of *Uncle Vanya* in particular, there is no need to look further than Sean Mathias's fine new production at the Cottesloe. This is the third time in its short history that the National has staged the play, and the third time the theatre has demonstrated that it contains the two best male parts its author wrote. Why else would Michael Redgrave in 1963, Michael Bryant in 1982, and now Ian McKellen play the dilapidated Vanya? Why else would Olivier, Dinsdale Landen and Antony Sher opt to perform the rough but sensitive Dr Astrov?

Both characters fall for Yelena, svelte young wife of Vanya's former brother-in-law, the spoiled old academic, Serebryakov. Astrov is the cooler and less besotted, but he still neglects his practice, his private plantation and nature preserve, and Serebryakov's daughter Sonya, who is herself abjectly in love with him. Vanya lets his family estate deteriorate, makes gormless advances to an embarrassed Yelena, and becomes more and more enviously inclined to see the professor as a leech grown fat on his blood, sweat and tears.

But frustration is the normal condition for all Chekhov's characters except the simple or smug. For Vanya and Astrov, trapped in the Russian outback and their own limitations, life is mostly yearning and denial, dream and disappointment.

That is the play's overall pattern, perhaps even its overall meaning, but within it plenty of variations are possible. Ralph Richardson's Vanya was all "fuddled clumsiness and gauche petulance", "lubberly and earth-bound, dreaming of the heavens he never stormed".

Redgrave was an "ungainly, muscular figure, built for action but constantly at odds with his own body", flapping when he meant to threaten and awkwardly bumbling when he wanted to impress. Paul Scofield found a sepulchral melancholy in the role, Peter O'Toole a woozy, raddled desperation, Nigel Hawthorne an incoherent, uncontrollable rage, Donald Sinden a childlike helplessness, and Bryant a chilling bitterness and self-contempt.

Olivier's first Astrov, performed opposite Richardson's Vanya in 1945, was generally thought too sophisticated and confident for a country doctor; and in 1963 he was coarser, more vulnerable and (most thought) much better. More recently, Landen played the character as a turbulent sensualist in conflict with a strong superego. Albert Finney resembled a great bull who was finding the social code of the china shop hard to observe, and Ian Holm — in a characteristically interesting performance — observed his own moral and physical decline with clinical detachment.

What of McKellen, what of Sher in this new production? The former gives one of those careful, understated performances which seem to be his speciality nowadays. At first he appears to be a shambling, affable buffer, not to be taken too seriously when he offhandedly mumbles about his grief and rage. But Janet McTeer's Yelena is already having her impact. As she glides past, he abruptly, absurdly combs his moustache, grinning dopily after her.

> 'McKellen shows us the would-be killer inside the rumpled green corduroy'

Vanya the emotional corpse is twitching, forlornly asking questions, and all too successfully resuscitating himself. Then comes a sudden yell at Serebryakov, the more terrible for the breathlessness, palpitation and bodily tottering accompanying it: "You've ruined my hopes!" McKellen shows us the would-be killer inside the rumpled green corduroy — and then, far worse, the desolate resignation that ends by disarming and unmanning him.

The result is a portrait of defeat the more impressive for its unerring refusal to grab at the audience's collective heart. Remember the English translation of the name Vanya? If this is tragedy at all, it is Uncle Jack's tragedy, the sorry tale of a man significant only for his insignificance. Nor are there any pretensions about Sher's Astrov. That is evident when he mooches onstage in his sweaty, greying vest with his two-day beard and squalid brown bag. Health visitor, fumigate yourself; or so any respectable patient might murmur. But his patients are not respectable. Mostly, they are the poor and ignorant, and (as he wryly admits) they have had their erosive effect on him. Sher's Astrov can flash nice smiles at Yelena and even radiate a little excited idealism when he talks of the forests he is saving. But he is becoming cruder, more cynical, and, judging by his grunts when he feeds, a bit feral. He knows it, too. That is why he is suddenly, shockingly wracked with sobs when he recalls a patient who died under the chloroform.

Each actor seems to be inviting both our unsentimental sympathy and our uncensorious judgement. Each suggests he is simultaneously the victim of Russia and of himself. And together they leave us feeling there is exceptional interest in what are nevertheless unexceptional lives. In other words, they manage to be Chekhovian, as does Mathias's production as a whole.

Balance, intellectual generosity, munificence of spirit is evident everywhere, even in the handling of Serebryakov. In Eric Porter's superb performance, he is no self-satisfied monster, but an old invalid desperate to recover health, respect, success and a life that, like Vanya, he feels is disappearing down the drain.

Chekhov production has certainly had its vicissitudes. D.H. Lawrence called the dramatist "Willy Wetleg", Gorky approvingly declared that *Uncle Vanya* was "the hammer with which he pounds the public's empty heads", and directors have sought to justify each extreme. There have been Marxist productions, exposing bourgeois decadence. More commonly, there have been sad, sepia productions, fastidiously celebrating genteel decay. Can we altogether blame those early British critics who dismissed Chekhov's characters as whingeing neurotics, or the American reviewer who wrote that Kostia in *The Seagull* should have worked off his literary inclinations through athletic sport, like "a normal American boy"? Super-subtle staging, replete with portentous pauses, was often to blame.

From the start, the more sensitive critics realised that humour was inextricably mixed with pain in Chekhov, that simplicity had to be embraced and affectation eschewed, that an un-English volatility of emotion was wanted, and that the smallest roles were vital to the whole. The Russian exile Komisarjevsky came in the 1920s to bring fun to the plays. The Moscow Art Theatre followed, demonstrating the strengths of ensemble production. Yet only recently has our theatre begun to rise to all Chekhov's challenges.

That is the virtue of this *Uncle Vanya*. It may be muted, but it is not solemn. There are pauses, but they have content. The main actors are strong, but the supporting ones feel no need tactfully to evaporate. The thing lives. Chekhov has come of age in England.

INSIDE

TOMORROW
Valerie Grove on Dublin's debate

Just desserts, or simply sex on a plate?

PRIVATE LIFE

John Diamond tries to put a price on the food of love

As are so many things in these straitened times, it is all a matter of exchange rates. The question was, how many good dinners should a gentleman spring for before he can legitimately consider that a mere goodnight peck on the cheek counts as short-changing?

The question came up the other night after the fourth bottle was down to the lees, and it was posed rather less coyly than I have put it here, but you get the point. It's the updated version of the Shaw gag (man approaches woman in bar, says would you sleep with me for £100,000? She says, well, yes. He says great! — Would you do it for a tenner? She says what sort of woman do you think think I am? He says we've established that, we're just haggling about the price) rewritten for our times.

Of course you and I are modern people with modern values and the very latest thing in sensibilities. We know that this side of the Reeperbahn or the Pigalle, sex is not something that can be negotiated in cash terms, and that the sexual act is, even at its least sublime, an essentially democratic function in which both parties give and take equally.

We know that the woman who habitually comes across after a small Babycham is no less a woman for that, and that her sister in womanhood, who will even lend a good prospect the price of the Babycham, is doing no more than exulting in her own God-given passion for life.

We know all that, but none of it answers the question. For, as far as I can see, practice has yet to catch up with theory. As we started the fifth bottle, one of the women round the table told us about a girlfriend of hers who had started seeing a new man. The two had not slept together yet, and she was not sure whether she wanted to. On the other hand, she did quite like the guy's company, and he *had* treated her to three decent meals, and she could, if she thought hard about it, imagine much worse things than spending a night with him. What her friend needed to know was whether three meals constituted the going rate for a night of casual sex.

I didn't know, I said. I'd never quite thought of it like that.

Which is, of course, a lie. If men never considered the sexual exchange rate in precisely those terms then the Caprice and the Ivy would have given up on the supper trade decades ago. It's just that I've never discussed in such baldly innocent terms the sexual contract that is suggested as the Visa card is discreetly laid over the unread bill.

Sure I've had those laddish locker-room discussions about the criminal price of a good dinner and the chances of getting lucky afterwards, but the absolute connectedness of the two events is never really acknowledged: the self-aggrandising suggestion is always that the encounter would, or they didn't, and there is no talk of anything else that is remotely middle-ground any more.

All of which, I would guess, must make it difficult for the women who dine. Surely they can pay for themselves, you say. But look round any restaurant any evening and see, in these enlightened times, just how many men not only cover the tab, but insist on doing so. And if it is hard for a woman to insist on splitting the bill, how much harder must it be to say, just as the prawn cocktail is served, "Mmmm! My favourite! By the way, I hope you weren't expecting to have sex tonight."

The most surprising thing is that most of the other women at the table did come up with a quite precise figure for the sexual exchange rate. True, they did not put it quite in those terms: they talked about "More than three meals is taking advantage of his generosity", or "Two meals is OK, but if there's a club afterwards or something, then any more counts as stringing him along".

But the sentiment was exactly the same. And when I say this is surprising I do not know why the fact that women understand the game men play should surprise me. Perhaps it is simply the eternal surprise that grown men play the same game with the *carte des vins* as the one I used to play at 14 with a Pepsi and a Wimpy.

VAN GOGH IN ENGLAND: No, there is no great undiscovered English period in Van Gogh's painting to match the wonders of Brabant, Paris, Arles and St-Remy. But the time he spent in England, 1873-76, was extremely important for his subsequent development, opening his eyes to the social realist work of illustrators and of painters such as Herkomer and Fildes, as well as Gustav Doré's grim views of contemporary London. This show fills in the background, with examples of the British art which fascinated the painter and 10 important Van Gogh paintings.
Barbican Art Gallery, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 4141). Mon, Wed-Sat, 10am-6.45pm, Tues, 10am-5.45pm, Sun, midday-6.45pm, opens today until May 4.

ANDREA MANTEGNA: Since one of Mantegna's grandest works, the great series devoted to *The Triumphs of Caesar*, is part of the royal collection, London seems a logical place to launch this first major retrospective of the painter for many years. Mantegna is unique among 15th-century Italian artists for the impression he gives of passion only just held in check by the disciplines of classical form.
Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (071-439 7438). Daily, 10am-6pm, until April 5. Sponsored by Olivetti.

DON GIOVANNI: Johannes Schaaf's chilling, new production of Mozart's opera, set against the high, black walls of Peter Pabst's sets, completes the Da Ponte cycle at Covent Garden. The extremely strong cast includes Thomas Allen, a highly experienced Giovanni, Carol Vaness (Donna Anna), Marta Marquez (Zerlina), Bryn Terfel (Masetto) and Claudio Desderi (Leporello). Bernard Haitink conducts.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066/071-240 1911), 7pm.

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET: The company presents *A Stranger I Came*, an engaging new work by choreographer Robert North, together with Christopher Bruce's highly acclaimed *Swansong*, and the company's new staging of Balanchine's *Apollo*.
Coronation Hall, Ulverston (0229 52299), 7.30pm.

THE POCKET DREAM: Comedians Mike McShane and Sandi Toksvig play theatre staff who help a half-strength touring company to put on "the ultimate comic version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*". This new comedy-drama is presented by Theatre of Comedy and includes Louisa Rix and Clive Mantle from the *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* team and members of the Comedy Store Players. The production begins previews tonight and opens March 4.
Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-867 1115), 7.45pm.

A HARD HEART: Howard Barker's latest play, set in a besieged European city, with Anna Massey as an architect bent upon saving the Queen (Angela Down). The production begins previews tonight and opens Tuesday.
Almeida, Almeida Street, London N1 (071-359 4404), 8pm.

VOICES: Musicologist Neil Sorrell introduces a new Contemporary Music Network programme which combines the techniques of North Indian and European classical vocal styles, linking Indian ragas with 20th-century works by John Cage, Roger Marsh, Henri Pousseur and Giacinto Scelsi. Singer Linda Hirst, saxophonist David Roach, and vocalists Rajan and Sajan Misra from Benares perform the concert which will be taken on a tour of England until March 8.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm.

RANDY WESTON: Weston first started out in the late Forties running a restaurant in Brooklyn frequented by the giants of Bebop. Encouraged by the likes of Duke Jordan, Max Roach and Cecil Payne, he went on to develop his strengths as pianist and composer, heavily influenced by Thelonious Monk. In terms of the Afro-American search for cultural heritage, he is a frequent visitor to his native Africa, the subject of several recordings. His distinctive style embraces jazz-funk, African rhythms, R&B and folk. At the Tenor Clef until Saturday.
Tenor Clef, 35 Coronet Street, London (071-729 2476/2440), 8.30pm.

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Conducted by Simon Rattle, the orchestra plays two early 20th-century masterpieces in this instalment of the epic "Towards the Millenium" series. The decade on which they are concentrating this year is from 1911 to 1920, and this Viennese programme consists of Berg's *Three Pieces for Orchestra*, Op 6 and Deryck Cooke's masterly completion of Mahler's Tenth Symphony.
Symphony Hall, Broad Street, Birmingham (021-212 3333), 7.30pm.

STEVE REICH AND MUSICIANS: This one-off concert is the first British date since the South Bank's Reich Festival in 1988. Reich's work is more lively and positive than the usual minimalist music and this programme includes four of his classics: *Drumming* (Part 1), *Electric Counterpoint*, *Sextet* and *Different Trains*.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.30pm.

☐ **'ALLO, 'ALLO:** Gorden Kaye and his team of funny frogs and krauts up to their familiar antics.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-580 9562). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm.

■ **BECKET:** Riveting performances from Derek Jacobi and Robert Lindsay in Anouilh's play on the relationship between Thomas à Beckett and Henry II.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 165mins.

☐ **LA BETE:** Bravura performance by Alan Cumming in a strange Molière parody: eccentric but clever.
Lyric Hammersmith, King Street, W6 (081-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm. 145mins.

☐ **THE COTTON CLUB:** An impression of the Harlem nightspot: high on energy, low on story freshness.
Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

▨ **DANCING AT LUGHNASA:** Brian Friel's Olivier Award-winning memory-play, set in Thirties Donegal.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

▨ **DEATH AND THE MAIDEN:** Juliet Stevenson, Michael Byrne, Bill Paterson superb in Ariel Dorfman's Chilean political drama. Best play of 1991.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 120mins.

☐ **AN EVENING WITH GARY LINEKER:** Sometimes droll look at the fantasies of a woman married to a soccer nut.
Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (071-494 5075). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. 130mins.

▨ **FROM A JACK TO A KING:** Witty and stylish version of Macbeth's climb to the top, set in the world of rock bands and packed with Sixties songs.
Boulevard, Walker's Court, off Peter Street, W1 (071-437 2661 after 2pm). Mon-Sat, 8.15pm, Fri late show, 10.15pm, mat Sat, 6pm. 80mins.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London
■ House full, returns only
▨ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

▨ **GOOD ROCKIN' TONITE:** Satisfying musical celebrating Fifties and Sixties pop classics. Great stuff.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-240 0300). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm. 215mins.

■ **MAKING IT BETTER:** James Saunders' subtle play concerned with ideals, reality and liberation in Prague and London; Jane Asher in an exemplary cast of four.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 120mins.

▨ **MURMURING JUDGES:** David Hare tackles our rotting legal system: gaps in the contest but a powerful bout.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm, mat Sat, 2pm. 165mins.

■ **THE NIGHT OF THE IGUANA:** Alfred Molina and a superb Eileen Atkins in Tennessee Williams's late play on the various effects of sexual repression.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Today, 2.15pm and 7.30pm.

☐ **PHANTOM OF THE OPERA:** Gleeful version of the old thriller: tunes by Offenbach, Verdi and Weber but not Lloyd Webber.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 150mins.

☐ **SOPHISTICATED LADIES:** Twelve singer-dancers whirl through the music of Duke Ellington. Obvious routines cannot disguise the true rueful Duke.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 130mins.

☐ **A SWELL PARTY:** Four singers, two pianists in likeable tribute to Cole Porter's wit and wry melodies.
Vaudeville, The Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5.30pm. 140mins.

▨ **TALKING HEADS:** Patricia Routledge and Alan Bennett excellent in three of his monologues charting the unconscious humour and pain of desolate lives.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

☐ **A TRIBUTE TO THE BLUES BROTHERS:** Lively parade of tuneful oldies. Good fun.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (071-867 1119). Mon-Thurs, 8.15pm, Fri, Sat, 6.15pm and 9pm. 120mins.

▨ **WALPURGIS NIGHT:** Fascinating look at life and death in a Soviet psychiatric hospital by V. Erofeyev, a former inmate. Snoo Wilson translates.
Gate, Prince Albert Pub, 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (071-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. 160mins. Final week.

LONG RUNNERS: ▨ Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . . ▨ Blood Brothers: Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . . ▨ Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ☐ Carmen Jones: Old Vic (071-928 7616)
■ Cats: New London (071-405 0072)
☐ Don't Dress for Dinner: Apollo (071-494 5070) . . . ▨ Five Guys Named Moe: Lyric (071-494 5045)
■ Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat: Palladium (071-494 5037) . . . ☐ Me and My Girl: Adelphi (071-836 7611) . . . ■ Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ■ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . . ☐ The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ☐ Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) . . . ▨ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665)
☐ Thunderbirds F.A.B. — The Next Generation: Ambassadors (071-836 6111) . . . ▨ The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

NEW RELEASES

AFRAID OF THE DARK (18): Mark Peploe's clever but disagreeable psychological thriller about fear and blindness. With Ben Keyworth, James Fox, Fanny Ardant.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) Cannon Haymarket (071-839 1527).

◆ **FATHER OF THE BRIDE** (PG): Daughter's impending wedding drives Steve Martin crazy. Disappointing remake of the 1950 classic; for audiences who want to be spoon-fed. With Diane Keaton; director, Charles Shyer.
Barbican (071-638 8891) Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) Marble Arch (0426 914501) West End (0426 915574) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

THE PRINCE OF TIDES (15): New York psychiatrist helps football coach face family secrets. Romantic drama with ideas above its station, grandly acted by Nick Nolte. Barbra Streisand directs and co-stars, but fails to sing.
Odeon Leicester Square (0426 915683).

RAISE THE RED LANTERN (PG): Zhang Yimou's austere, quietly dazzling drama of a concubine's struggles in Twenties China. With Gong Li.
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742/3743) Metro (071-437 0757) Renoir (071-837 8402).

CURRENT

BARTON FINK (15): The Coen brothers' marvellous macabre comedy about a New York playwright all at sea in 1940s Hollywood. Starring John Turturro, John Goodman. A triple Cannes prizewinner.
Gate (071-727 4043) Lumière (071-836 0691) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366).

BETTY BLUE (18): Three-hour version of Jean-Jacques Beineix's tale of mad love, released with cuts in 1986. The plot makes more sense, but the style of grandiose chic still irritates. With Beatrice Dalle, Jean-Hughes Anglade.
Electric (071-792 2020).

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country.

BLACK ROBE (15): Seventeenth century Jesuit (Lothaire Bluteau) tries to convert Indians in northern Quebec. Intelligent epic from Brian Moore's novel. Director, Bruce Beresford.
Cannon Fulham Road (071-370 2636) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Plaza (071-497 9999).

DEATH IN BRUNSWICK (15): Sam Neill as an ageing mother's boy sucked into love, violence and accidental murder. Tasty black comedy from new Australian director John Ruane.
Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Metro (071-437 0757).

DELICATESSEN (15): French video whizzkids Jeunet and Caro's wonderfully bizarre fantasy about a houseful of tenants living above a cannibalistic butcher. With Dominique Pinon, Marie-Laure Dougnac.
Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Metro (071-437 0757) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772).

◆ **THE FAVOUR, THE WATCH AND THE VERY BIG FISH** (15): Frisky absurdity about a French photographer of devotional scenes (Bob Hoskins) struggling to find his Christ. With Jeff Goldblum, Natasha Richardson; director, Ben Lewin.
Odeon Haymarket (0426 915353).

◆ **FOR THE BOYS** (15): Song-and-dance team entertain troops in three wars, only to be ruined by a synthetic script. With Bette Midler, James Caan; director, Mark Rydell.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) West End (0426 915574) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

◆ **FRANKIE AND JOHNNY** (15): Short-order cook (Al Pacino) courts a wary waitress (Michelle Pfeiffer). Synthetic adaptation of Terrence McNally's play. Director, Garry Marshall.
Cannon Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Empire (071-497 9999) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

◆ **JFK** (15): Oliver Stone's contentious, electrifying, three-hour drama about the Kennedy assassination. Kevin Costner as crusading D.A. Jim Garrison; a bustling supporting cast.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6861) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Minema (071-235 4225) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) Plaza (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

◆ **STAR TREK VI: THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY** (PG): Farewell Kirk and Spock, battling galaxy war-mongers in their last screen adventure. Underwhelming, but adequate. With William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy; director, Nicholas Meyer.
Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Empire (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

TOTO THE HERO (15): Jaunty, absurdist comedy about youth, old age and life's disappointments from talented new Belgian director Jaco van Dormael. With Michel Bouquet, Thomas Godet.
Premiere (071-439 4470).

TRULY, MADLY, DEEPLY (PG): Grieving Juliet Stevenson wills her late boyfriend (Alan Rickman) back to life. Endearingly humane drama; a directing debut for playwright Anthony Minghella.
Curzon Phoenix (071-240 9661).

URGA (PG): Nikita Mikhalkov's mesmerising film about civilisation encroaching on the Mongolian steppes. The top prizewinner at last year's Venice Film Festival.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865).

LES VALSEUSES (18): Gérard Depardieu and Patrick Dewaere in 1974, as two lads with idle hands. Timely revival of Bertrand Blier's ferocious, amoral, snook-cocking 1974 romp.
Cannon Piccadilly (071-437 3561).

How a poet approaches love

OPERA

Les Contes d'Hoffmann
Covent Garden

JERRY HADLEY is the most winning of American tenors. At first in Royal Opera's revival of *Hoffmann* it seemed that he had simply too much ingenuous charm for Offenbach's sot of a poet. This was no storyteller holding a tavern audience, but a Candide — a part Hadley sang exquisitely in Leonard Bernstein's musical of that name under the composer — hoping for the best in the world of love and finding only the worst.

But what begins as a lightweight, almost operetta characterisation of Hoffmann gradually acquires a deeper and darker purpose. The poet never achieves love, but in Hadley's performance he moves a little closer to it as the acts go by: Olympia is just a doll, Giulietta at least is flesh yet remains a courtesan. Antonia, though, is capable of inspiring true passion and Hadley saves his fullest voice for this final act, but not before singing "O Dieu! de quelle ivresse" with great finesse when Giulietta has him in her clutches.

Hadley in his first London *Hoffmann* does not attempt an heroic, ravaged figure in the way that Domingo did, or Gedda before him. Instead he tailors the part to his very different vocal qualities. He may hold back on the dramatic outbursts until the end, when Hoffmann accepts he must settle for a muse rather than a mistress, but the tone is ever silken.

Gregory Yurisich takes on the quartet of villains in more conventional style, not afraid of those old trappings of melodrama, the top hat and the cackle. The rest of the cast is much as it was during the previous *Hoffmann* revival last summer. But now that Jeffrey Tate is showing considerably more confidence in the pit, things all round are musically tauter.

DONALD COOPER

Guyed by a doll: a moment of truth for Jerry Hadley's Hoffmann on stage at Covent Garden

Some of the clutter has been taken from the Giulietta act and Anne Howells makes Venice a more seductive place than it was, despite hints that Federico Fellini must have passed this way. Sumi Jo is all doll as Olympia and Leontina Vaduva has the Cotrubas art of portraying fragility with the healthiest of voices as Antonia. Jean Rigby's Nicklaus eventually steps out of Hoffmann's shadow in Act III to preach to great effect the solaces of art in general and the violin in particular. Praise too for Anne-Marie Owens as "the Spirit of Antonia's Mother": very corporeal and very effective..

John Schlesinger's production, dating from the Offenbach centenary of a dozen years ago, remains a problem — and a cumbersome one at that. It demands long intervals and still lacks mystery and magic: it even lacks the authentic smell of Hoffmann's favourite beer cellar. Probably he would have gone somewhere else, had he the chance.

The beginning of April brings major cast changes, with Neil Shicoff as Hoffmann and Samuel Ramey as the four men who thwart him.

JOHN HIGGINS

Conflict exposed

CONCERT

LPO/Welser-Möst
Festival Hall

FAMILIARITY with Brahms's symphonies has bred not contempt but a kind of deafness. We no longer hear the turmoil in them, or recognise that they embody a perpetual tug-of-war between duty and pleasure, reason and instinct, Classicism and Romanticism or, in purely musical terms, between impulsive lyricism and taut symphonic argument.

We still enjoy their marvellously solid craftsmanship and construction, of course, but fail to respond to the very quality that endeared them to the Victorians: the vivid sense of a man bound by the Protestant work-ethic and struggling to smother the dreams, fun and fantasy within himself. There is no more remarkable musical evocation of the phrase "we pay for our pleasures" than Brahms's Second Symphony, where every passage of liberating sensuality is immediately followed by an almost masochistic penance of furious contrapuntal activity.

In Franz Welser-Möst's admirable interpretation with the London Philharmonic, this internal conflict was, for once, vividly exposed. Without any vulgarity, Welser-Möst dangerously played the two poles of emotions against each other: the expansive lyrical passages were given a Mahlerian intensity, while the bustling allegros were pushed towards a frenetic extreme, particularly at the end where the famously jubilant fanfares were given an unnatural and unnerving stridency.

The performance was alert and energetic, apart from a few ragged attacks. There was nimble playing, too, in Haydn's Symphony No 102. I cannot recall the last time I heard a Haydn symphony played with nearly 60 strings, though I dare say they still regularly fry them that way in Wyoming. Welser-Möst achieved a remarkable neatness in the quicksilver finale, given the numbers involved, but just because something is possible does not make it desirable.

Sandwiched between the symphonies was the closing scene from Strauss's *Capriccio*, where the Countess dithers for ages in front of a mirror trying to decide whether to give poet or composer the green-light. Felicity Lott dithered with glorious voluptuousness — her final top notes hung in the air with the purity of icicles — and the orchestra , after a lacklustre start, rose splendidly to the passions of the final pages.

RICHARD MORRISON

Precious sounds

CONCERT

Te Kanawa/Vignoles
Barbican

A RECITAL by Dame Kiri is a recital in honour of the singer, not the song, and you simply have to keep reminding yourself of the fact. If it were Purcell you wanted to hear, if Mozart or Liszt, if Duparc or Walton, then there would be a line of singers stretching at least from the Barbican Hall to the underground station who could interpret their music more idiomatically and more interestingly.

The essential Kiri is the voice as sound: it was Roger Vignoles, her accompanist, who gave us the essential Purcell, Mozart and so on. Purcell began the evening and Walton ended it, and there was little in Dame Kiri's performance to tell them apart. They shared a freedom of movement, a blurring of words, a lack of rhythmic muscle and a sense of distance, as if the audience were a gigantic television camera.

After "The Blessed Virgin's Expostulation", the programme progressed in a barely disturbed and muted undertone, with several songs providing appropriate verbal mottos. Mozart's "Un moto di gioia" was just that: a fleeting moment of vocal joy, following an equally light and flighty "An Chloë". The pale pathos of the composer's "Abendempfindung" was nicely expressed in its dying lines, its barely sounded consonants.

Liszt's "Kling leise, mein Lied" sounded softly and lightly enough: Duparc was treated to a gliding and generalised evocation of all that was "luxe, calme et volupté". Before came the "sommeil doux comme la mort" of "Extase". In this sleep of death, though, there was little ecstacy. Dame Kiri's reluctance to create any true differentiation of timbre, or definition of word or phrase, soon made even the vocal instrument itself seem pallid.

There were, of course, some thrilling moments, of pure, rounded pitch, of undisturbed legato flowing against the bright detail and sharp contours of Vignoles's piano playing. For too much of the time, though, Dame Kiri seemed content just to be.

There is little sense of live, close engagement with either the music in hand or with her audience. In recital, her performance has become distant, self contained, even a little precious. With the voice alone (particularly in its middle and low registers) not always being able to carry the day, Dame Kiri's ever loyal audience now deserve more.

HILARY FINCH

A case of catharsis

TELEVISION

Inspector Morse
ITV

LOYALTY to its television sleuths has become the emotional nucleus of England's fissile middle class. Morse, Maigret, Marple, Wexford, Poirot and the rest of them take precedence over lesser conventions, such as dinner or polite conversation. The aesthetics of detection are debated with unfeigned relish. A leader in *The Times* last week queried the accent of Maigret's assistant. Not even the grandees of the National Theatre (or the House of Commons) always receive such minute scrutiny. Do the high class tecs merit it?

If George Baker's Wexford is the benign autodidact and Michael Gambon's Maigret the cynical *flâneur* of the genre, John Thaw's Morse is its manic depressive. His brooding intensity leaves room for Kevin Whately's Sergeant Lewis as a less introverted foil, but the submerged emotion for which Morse's cold aloofness is a disguise rules out objectivity. Peter Falk used to play Columbo like a chess-player, but Morse's inquiries have a therapeutic thrust, as if his quest were really for the meaning of life.

Crime detection as catharsis has colossal appeal, particularly when combined with a backdrop of Oxford spires. On the strength of its first two-hour instalment ("Dead on Time") last night, the new series of *Inspector Morse* will not disappoint his faithful, who are legion.

The plot, which revolved around the suicide/murder/euthanasia of a don suffering from a degenerative condition, was given an extra dimension by the fact that the widow (deftly acted, by Joanna David) was once engaged to Morse. Her hail-fellow-well-met brother (the excellent Richard Pasco) tried to bring them together again. Morse's doomed desire to recapture the happiness he lost as a young man blinded him to missing links in the chain of proof. For once, not all loose ends were tied up at the climax: Lewis consigned the only hard evidence to the bottom of the Cherwell, for reasons that had more to do with solicitude for Morse's sanity than with justice.

Euthanasia was here subjected by the writer, Daniel Boyle, and the director, John Madden, to a harsh examination, one which most "serious" television dramas would have evaded. The merciless consequences of "mercy-killing" left Morse speechless with impotent rage and grief. Thousands of families will re-examine their views about doctors who reject the absolute duty to preserve lives; many who are bored by documentaries will talk about it, perhaps for the first time. Is that fact a clue to the present popularity of detectives?

Would a chief inspector who assaulted suspects in front of his boss, as Morse did here, last five minutes in the real police force? Is this Bow Street Hamlet plausible? To enjoy Morse, one must take a few imponderables for granted: his impeccable taste in music, for instance. "Dead on Time" made effective use of Schubert's String Quintet. To bring Morse into the proximity of this musical distillation of despair was risky, maybe pretentious. But the old misanthrope got away with it. Good for him.

DANIEL JOHNSON

Cinema: Geoff Brown reviews *The Double Life of Véronique, The Last Boy Scout, The Man in the Moon, Shadows* and *Cross My Heart*

Puzzling over life's mystery

Here is a Rubik's Cube of a movie: Kieslowski's **The Double Life of Véronique** (15, Curzon Mayfair). You turn it this way, you turn it that, always hoping that scenes will click into shape and the puzzle be solved. This never happens, but do not despair: the director who soared into the top league with his *Ten Commandments* cycle seems incapable, at the moment, of perpetrating a boring shot. Every image and sound is finely honed: each turn of the cryptic tale about identical girls — one Polish, one French — invites passionate thoughts about life, love and death.

The first half-hour pursues the intense life of Weronika, a Polish girl in her early twenties, with a soprano voice that could cut diamonds and a malfunctioning heart. "She's dead," comes the cry when she collapses at a concert; then earth is thrown into her grave. Enter Véronique (played by the same radiant actress, Irène Jacob), a Parisian music teacher with matching personal tics, the same gift for singing, and another weak heart. Weronika's life serves her as an example and warning, much like the Biblical precepts hovering behind the moral dilemmas of the *Ten Commandments*.

But the ties that bind these ladies go beyond character details. In both sections, an old, bent woman shuffles down a street; other echoes hover on the subliminal. Working with several key collaborators (including writer Krzysztof Piesiewicz and cameraman Slawomir Idziak, who gave *A Short Film About Killing* its eerie, bilious colour), Kieslowski creates an extraordinary atmosphere. You can almost smell the mystery of life.

Occasionally, he pushes the mystery too far. The puppeteer Alexandre, who sends Véronique baffling gifts of an audiotape and a shoelace, might have chosen simpler ways of pursuing a romance. But Irène Jacob, winner of the Best Actress prize at Cannes last year, is unfazed: she shines magnificently in a difficult part, alert to every exterior and interior force surging through her heroine.

The French-Polish co-production is Kieslowski's first international venture: product both of his burgeoning prestige and the Iron Curtain's collapse. One casualty is the dense social detail of his Polish films; for some, a texture of symbols and echoes may not be enough compensation. But there can be no doubt of Kieslowski's great gifts. This is uncompromising, high-voltage cinema.

The excitements offered by **The Last Boy Scout** (18, Cannon Haymarket, MGM Trocadero) are rather different. Exploding cars, suitcases and brains. A bloody contretemps with helicopter blades. Dialogue that leaves no witticism unturned (baddie to interloper: "I trust you're alone"; "No, I got the Vienna Boys' Choir with me").

Hollywood spent the record sum of $1.75 million to acquire the script by Shane Black, author of *Lethal Weapon*. His new opus slavishly follows the same formula. Bruce Willis, decorated with permanent stubble and a growing array of facial cuts, portrays an LA private eye gone to seed, following a trail of corruption in professional football and politics. His sidekick — there always is one — is Damon Wayans, a stand-up comic broadening his range.

Tony Scott, veteran of *Top Gun* and many commercials, proves the perfect director for Black's blood, bullets and wisecracks. Give him interiors with net curtains or overhead fans, and he will fashion the prettiest pictures. But give him a car to explode, a body to perforate, and his day is made. Scott pushes everything to the limit, and the actors happily join in the frenzy. Saturday night audiences may be delighted; Baden-Powell would be appalled.

The Man in the Moon (PG, MGM Trocadero) turns the clock back: not merely to rural Louisiana in the 1950s (the story's location), but to gentler times when films retained a humanistic soul, characters glowed with health, and teenage sex never advanced beyond a little gambol by the old mill stream. Freddie Francis's sun-kissed photography immediately sets the tone: this is an idyll.

Veteran director Robert Mulligan (see interview, below) wanted the tale of teenage sisters in love with the same boy-next-door to "resonate like a Chekhov short story". Surface clichés prevent this happening — although, deep down, the depiction of family relationships remains honest.

Dani Trant, aged 14, develops a crush on the 17-year-old Court. Once elder sister Maureen catches sight of him, Dani's feelings get trampled. It would be invidious to explain how, though by the end two gravediggers are needed: they are, as it happens, the only black characters, glimpsed for a handful of seconds.

Unknown players take pride of place. Reese Witherspoon and Emily Warfield, the bosom sisters who become rivals, try hard, but never quite set the screen alight. For that, we must turn to character players, especially Sam Waterston (the girls' father). If they awarded Oscars for the best biter-back of emotion, this man would win hands down.

"Jean-Paul Sartre has absolutely *nothing* to do with existential psychoanalysis!" Alas, they do not write dialogue like that anymore. But in the late 1950s, when John Cassavetes and a young team of actors created **Shadows** (18, ICA Cinema), his first film as a director, it seemed part of the landscape. This semi-plotless foray into the lives of New York bohemians rejuvenated American cinema, and blazed a trail that many film-makers, from Henry Jaglom to Spike Lee, gladly followed.

The years have removed some lustre; as with other scripts forged through improvisation, not all the words convince. But the film is forceful, sympathetic and drenched in period flavour, from Charlie Mingus's plangent saxophone to the glimpse of Dean Martin's name on a cinema marquee. Four other Cassavetes films join *Shadows* in the ICA Cinema's tribute to a procreative talent, too little mourned, and too quickly forgotten, since his death in 1989.

Enigmatic puppeteer and suitor: Philippe Volter as Alexandre in Krzystof Kieslowski's *The Double Life of Véronique*

La Fracture du myocarde, Jacques Fansten's modest drama about children concealing a mother's death from the authorities, has won many hearts. Steven Spielberg plans a Hollywood remake. The attractions for the director of *E.T.* are obvious. But for flintier souls, Fansten's film — brought into Britain as **Cross My Heart** (PG, Curzon Phoenix) — exercises a charm as wan as the present print's bleached colours.

The corpse, a single parent, is the mother of Martin, a mischievous lad with loyal friends, terrified of being sent to an orphanage. Fansten, veteran of several television films about children, feels obvious sympathy for the children's plight, but shovels the images with dull abandon onto the screen. Sylvain Copans cuts a piquant figure as the bereaved kid (imagine a dormouse with a crew-cut); the rest make barely a dent.

Finally, **Men of Respect** (18, Cannon Tottenham Court Road), filmed in 1989: a lively but doomed attempt to pitchfork *Macbeth* into today's New York underworld. John Turturro and Katherine Borowitz go into overdrive as Mike and Ruthie Battaglia, the surrogate Macbeths; Rod Steiger is the first corpse. But the script's parroting of Shakespeare ("If it's gonna get done, it's better done quick") prevents the film standing on its own feet. The writer-director is William Reilly, a professor at New York University. Indeed, *Men of Respect* feels more a piece of homework than a movie.

Too subtle, too bold and too old

Geoff Brown on how Hollywood's obsession with youth means that veteran directors are sidelined

When Brandon Tartikoff, as Paramount Pictures' new production head, vows to make films for "people too young to rent a car", it becomes clear that Hollywood's infatuation with the youth market is set to continue. For that is where the money lies. Last year's top box-office earner in North America was *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*. Thrill-seekers slapped down $204.3 million to see Arnold Schwarzenegger's good robot stride through a special effects bonanza and worst a bad robot who could turn himself into checkerboard flooring and walk through iron bars.

Given America's recession, we should perhaps be thankful that $204.3 million was spent anywhere. But by assiduously courting the mass youth market with noise, speed and cartoon violence, Hollywood is driving away the mature audiences who like their fun but also take their brains to the movies. These days, in Hollywood's distorted demographics, you are middle-aged at 25.

Film-makers can also get pushed to the sidelines by changes in fashion. Take a gentle, sensitive, well-seasoned director like Robert Mulligan, a recruit from American television's "golden age" who first worked in Hollywood in 1957, and rode high during the 1960s with *To Kill a Mockingbird, Love With the Proper Stranger* and other ventures produced by Alan J. Pakula.

Now 65 years old, Mulligan finds it increasingly hard for himself and his species to keep in work: "Whether you call us humanists or traditionalists or classicists, it's getting tougher for all of us — the quiet storytellers — to find a place. There's no question."

Asked if he is working on anything currently, he replies plaintively, "I'm working on trying to find something to do." He is searching, he says, for a "people picture": a story shaped by believable characters and real life's tussles, not a formula script shaped for a specific star or a showcase for the special effects wizards.

Still, Mulligan remains one of the lucky ones: 18 months ago, he was busy completing *The Man in the Moon*, his 20th film, released this week in London and reviewed above. In line with Tartikoff's pronouncement, the lead characters are under the car-rental age barrier of 21; but Mulligan admits that to tough inner-city kids, the teenage girls of *The Man in the Moon* might have come from the moon itself.

The film appears a little soggy compared with the director's best work; yet at least Mulligan found employment without debasing his beliefs or his craftsmanship. Other directors of the same generation, with long careers but few recent successes, are not so lucky.

Some put their hand to unworthy ventures or enter early retirement. Stanley Donen, who delighted the world with *Singin' in the Rain*, has not been heard from since *Blame It on Rio*, eight years ago; while Arthur Penn, whose *Bonnie and Clyde* and *Little Big Man* made him the intellectuals' darling, seems to have suffered a total artistic eclipse, his last film being *Penn and Teller Get Killed*, a barely released vehicle for an American comedy team. Year after year, Blake Edwards keeps ploughing ahead, but with rancid sex farces that help dismantle the reputation he built with the early Pink Panther comedies and *Days of Wine and Roses*.

For directors in their seventies or beyond, carpet slippers and the golf course beckon. Billy Wilder, now 85, put their problems in a nutshell in his interview with Volker Schlöndorff, recently transmitted on BBC. "I know I can make the film, physically and mentally; what I can't make is the deal." Stanley Kramer (78), has spent the past five years watching plans for films about Chernobyl, Beirut and Lech Walesa crumble. Years of silence or frustration are nevertheless preferable to something like *Rooftops*, stale youth fodder which only made its veteran director, Robert Wise, look foolish.

In today's media-driven world, the director with the loudest voice and the sharpest profile gets noticed. You need to be belligerent, obsessive, riven with *Angst*, or hot from Cannes, aged 22; you need to be a 1960s radical who never grew up, a Peter Pan with zillions of dollars, or a flamboyant egomaniac who keeps going bankrupt. Baseball caps, waving hands and a bushy beard are also useful.

Place Mulligan beside Coppola, Spielberg, Spike Lee or Oliver Stone, and you see the problem. He looks like a parish priest. After careful preparation, he makes his films without tantrums or needless expense. He starts at 8am, finishes shooting at 5pm, and rarely uses more than three takes. His aim is to get the job done, but not to be noticed doing it.

From a public relations point of view, this spells death. While the studio system remained relatively intact and the industry's finances secure, the quiet storytellers could still operate with distinction. Today, Hollywood has become a neon-lit battleground, with executives, megabuck stars, powerful agents and assorted piranhas fighting over the alchemist's formula that will turn their scripts into gold.

Such internecine warfare leaves little room for the small, sensitive film or the offbeat experiment, earning respect rather than dollars. More than ever before, the motto is "Play safe".

Mulligan points to a few signs of hope in American cinema, such as Martha Coolidge's delightful *Rambling Rose* — like *The Man in the Moon* a small-town period film with no star names attached. In a few weeks time, British audiences can taste *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café*: heart-warming tales of two spunky Alabama girls in days gone by, spun by Jessica Tandy. But it would take seismic shifts in popular fashion and the social environment to reverse the current trend.

So, like many others of his generation and temperament, Mulligan stays at home, in Connecticut, reading screenplays, searching for that special something; waiting for movies to grow up again.

ARTS BRIEF

Bill and Beryl

BERYL BAINBRIDGE's *An Awfully Big Adventure*, based on her experience working backstage at the Liverpool Playhouse in the 1950s, is to be staged at the theatre after all, on March 11. Portraying Bainbridge will be her own daughter, Rudi Davies. The premiere should have happened a year ago, but was cancelled when the Playhouse hit its financial crisis. The theatre was saved by a package devised by the court administrator and by the Liverpool-born impresario Bill Kenwright.

Wave goodbye

IF you listen to Radio 3 programmes on medium-wave, prepare to shed them now. After tomorrow, the network goes forever FM, broadcasting in stereo on the 90.2-92.4 wavelength. And where music goes, cricket follows — much to the chagrin of listeners who resent losing weeks of music broadcasts during the summer. Fielding the flak will be Nicholas Kenyon, the new Radio 3 controller, who starts on Monday. The network "celebrates" its new life with a live relay of *The Barber of Seville* from the New York Met at 6pm on Saturday: the bicentenary of Rossini's birth.

Last chance...

PERHAPS more than her predecessors as resident artist at the National Gallery, Paula Rego has made creative use of the art around her. The result, shown in "Tales from the National Gallery", is provocative and rich in insights. The exhibition (071-839 3321) closes on Sunday; it should be seen in conjunction with Rego's restaurant mural in the Sainsbury Wing.

First-footing: Jane Sanig of Rambert Dance Company performs in an empty office, part of a development in Eversholt Street, London NW1, by Lynton plc

ARTS SPONSORSHIP

Letters do the show right here

The property market slump has a silver lining for performers and artists in London, as developers look to the arts to attract buyers. Rachel Kelly reports

Jonathan Weymouth is a property developer. He also finds himself, perhaps to his surprise, playing the role of arts promoter. Weymouth, a director from Prudential's property division, wants tenants for his properties, and sees the arts as a way of attracting them.

"We decided to host a one-off, lunchtime show of hits from the show *Carmen Jones* at our office block in the City, entirely as a letting proposition," he says. "We were using the performing arts to get people to come and see our building."

Some 200 people — half of them existing tenants, half prospective tenants — gathered at Minster Court in Mincing Lane to hear Sharon Benson, the star of *Carmen Jones*, and others in the cast blast out "Dat's Love", "My Joe" and "Summer". The singers and musicians had swapped their usual home, the Old Vic stage, for a grey-tiled office with strip lighting and a makeshift stage.

Weymouth believes this to be one of the first-ever performances undertaken in the cause of selling office space. It might sound incongruous, but with 40 million square foot of office space empty in more than 4,000 buildings in central London, one can understand why developers are clutching at artists as a way of getting tenants round their buildings. The artists, of course, are delighted: here is an audience of business people who are potential arts sponsors in their own right.

Links between developers and artists began with the visual arts. Peter Davidson works for the London & Paris property group, which organised an art exhibition in its office block in Kingsway. "Unless you've got a massive lobby or an atrium," he says, "office space is better suited to the visual arts than the performing arts. There isn't enough head-room."

Examples abound. The property company Lynton is exhibiting the American artist Robert Heindel in its Eversholt Street development. Young British artists were being shown by the Pomeroy Purdy gallery at the Quinlan Terry development over Charing Cross last year. Both of those were in empty office space. Meanwhile, the Imry group has hosted an exhibition of modern art by the company Nomadic Art, at its North Audley Street offices.

The introduction of performing art into the empty office was probably triggered last year by the property slump and the need for more adventurous arts events to lure potential tenants. The London Mozart Players played at offices in Mayfair; the Rambert Dance Company has danced in the old Billingsgate Market.

"The performance was far less formal than one in a concert hall," says David Juritz, the violinist who led the LMP on its Mayfair expedition. "It was more of a corporate evening than a concert. The sound was less than perfect because the ceilings were too low and the seats and carpets absorbed the noise. But the lighting was much better than in a concert hall." And perhaps the chief virtue of the event, says Juritz, was the chance to meet some businessmen.

But what about the bill? The *Carmen Jones* event cost about £15,000, which Jonathan Weymouth thinks "surprisingly reasonable" when compared with the normal cost of an agents' reception, which is the usual way of wooing clients and only slightly cheaper than paying performers.

"We hope that this way people will remember the building because they remember the show," Weymouth says. However, he admits that "we have not yet had anyone sign up because of the event; but it's early days".

Bringing the killing fields to life

Derwent May

FIELDS OF GLORY
By Jean Rouaud
Translated by Ralph Manheim
Harvill, £13.99

Something seems to be stirring on the arid French literary scene. The last two novels to win the Prix Goncourt have been enjoyable and intelligent books in the best humane tradition of French writing.

The November 1990 winner, *Les champs d'honneur*, has now been translated into English as *Fields of Glory* — quite fast going for a translation these days. When the author, the 40-year-old Jean Rouaud, was awarded the prize for this — his first — novel, the British press dwelt on the fact that he was earning his living by running a newspaper kiosk. That gave a false impression of both him and his book. Rouaud is not a drop-out, a boulevard-wise reporter of the seamy lives of Parisian passers-by.

On the contrary, his novel is an oblique, poetic chronicle of family life deep in the countryside of the Lower Loire, over a period stretching from the first world war up to recent days.

Rouaud approaches the story of his family very indirectly. His first chapter is entirely devoted to the terrifying but cheerful way in which the narrator's grandfather drove his battered old car, a 2CV, along the country roads in the 1950s and 1960s, with the grandchildren trembling in the back. Chapter Two describes simply, but very beautifully, the rain in the Lower Loire — now falling in tiny, imperceptible drops from a luminous pearl-grey sky, now "a slow, dense, obstinate curtain", now in the spring storms lashing your face with iron filings, piercing you with watery needles.

We move on to grandmother — and her pronounced hostility both to the rain and her husband's 2CV. But whatever she thinks of the car, her marriage is her life. She will not speak of her age except to say, invariably, that she was "twenty-five in 1912, the year I was married". That formula, incidentally, requires such complicated calculations to work out her present age that no-one tries anymore.

At this point, we begin to grasp Rouaud's technique. He is working almost like a Cubist painter, giving you one facet of his rich scene at a time, until they all slip into each other and produce a full, multilayered picture.

The technique succeeds. In the end we find our way deep into the life of this family: the grandparents, the narrator's father and mother, the grandchildren, the relatives — and the dead.

The dead are the revelation of the end of the book. This seems to be a contented family at first, living in a sunny world despite the rain, with even the devout spinster, Aunt Marie, who lives in a "two-room hermitage" at the end of the garden no more than an endearing eccentric. But she is the link with the dead. When she was a young schoolteacher in 1916 her brother Joseph died from German poison gas. Rouaud's description of its greenish waves coming across the Ypres plain is like a ghastly pastiche of his rain chapter — and another facet of the family's history drops into place.

After that, Aunt Marie stopped menstruating — her blood-sacrifice to match her brother's. The following year her brother Emile was also killed in the war: his bones returned home in a *madeleine* crate 12 years later. So the deaths of the first world war always haunted the family — and by the end of the book the young children of the 1960s have begun to understand that too. The intricate story is complete.

The November 1991 Goncourt winner was *Les Filles du Calvaire* by Pierre Combescot (Grasset, 130 francs) — a longer, more sturdy read, but also rich in incident and character, and very varied in colour and tone. This is another war story, but one with a difference: its central section is called "A Joyous Collaboration" and offers a picturesque, forgiving account of semi-collaborators in Paris during the second world war.

Both authors have one fault, which is to try a bit too hard to make us like their characters or find them fascinating. They are intriguing enough characters not to need this touch of hype. With books like these, we shall all be reading French literature again.

Derwent May is European Arts Editor of The Times.

Marooned in a tropic of tedium

Nigella Lawson reads the letters of two lovers in love with themselves

A LITERATE PASSION
Letters of Anaïs Nin and Henry Miller 1932-1953
Edited by Gunther Stuhlmann
Allison & Busby, £12.99

In December 1931, Anaïs Nin wrote in her diary: "I've met Henry Miller. When he first stepped out of the car and walked towards the door where I stood waiting I saw a man I liked. In his writing he is flamboyant, virile, animal, magnificent. He's a man whom life makes drunk, I thought. He is like me." He is like me: the ultimate praise of the egotist. If, in Miller, the narcissistic Nin found her self-regarding match, it was a match she was quiveringly ready to make.

Her marriage to the banker Hugh Guiler fell short of her ideal of the artist's existence. She was ready for sexual experimentation, for a passion she felt more suitable for the role of writer she so portentously assumed. "I really believe," she wrote in those same diaries, "that if I were not a writer, not a creator, not an experimenter, I might have been a very faithful wife. I think highly of faithfulness. But my temperament belongs to the writer, not to the woman."

Thus was infidelity not so much excused as sanctified. It was her vocation. So when Miller called to her, how could she not answer? "I was waiting to meet him, as if that would solve something and it did. When I saw him, I thought, here is a man I could love."

And did she love him? Certainly these letters, which span the decade of their affair and the decade which followed, quake with the intensity and passion their alliance so self-consciously celebrated. The declarations, the promises, the knee-trembling professions of erotic compulsion are indeed dutifully recorded. For both correspondents, what mattered most was not what they felt for each other, but what they felt for themselves. In this respect, these letters do represent a testament to a love affair of unrivalled intensity.

But both correspondents also responded to a need in the other, the need to be seen as they saw themselves, as writers, artists, as beings etched by sensitivity and pain. Together they would create literature. From the start, these letters were intended to be published.

When the infatuation was dimming, Miller was to write that "what threw me into consternation was the evident enjoyment with which you swam in a sea of flattery- . . . that is *your* weakness." At the beginning, certainly, it was a weakness he was happy to indulge.

"You are essentially the artist," he solemnly informed her, "whether you choose a small or big canvas." "You make me think of Casanova", she responded, "except that in between the erotic Casanova was boring, while you, in between eroticism and even because of it, you get profound. It astonishes me how delicately you can made *distinctions* between women."

"Your language is still more overwhelming than mine," Miller offered: "I am a child compared to you, because when the womb in you speaks it enfolds everything." "*Your* book," Nin rejoined "swells up inside of me like my very *own* — more joyously even than my own, for *your* book is for me a fecundation, while mine is an act of narcissism. I say let a woman write books, but let her above everything else remain *fecundable* by other books." These few quotes alone show how comically inappropriate is the book's breathless title.

Miller pored over Nin's journals and dispatched to her whatever he had been working on. Other writers were given the same treatment. Lawrence was earnestly discussed; Nin favoured Dostoevsky; and Miller invoked Proust: "Open your Proust," he ordered. "I have underlined it for you. What is not underlined is worthless." And in the sole, if unwittingly, funny passage out of some 200,000 words, Miller wrote: "I think you are going to revise your opinion about the sterility of French letters."

The official line is that the affair broke up because it became clear that their lives could not never be united as their minds and bodies had been. The letters tell a different story. Miller began to temper his giddy praise with criticism. "You need to write less and sweat more", he wrote.

It's enough to make one cheer. But the criticism ricocheted off his correspondent: "Watch yourself a bit, Henry . . . You know, Henry, your understanding works on and off, very waveringly . . . Mine has a funny quality of always being on."

Their affair continued for many years after this exchange, but a cold note of steely detachment had been sounded. And not long later, the once-adoring Nin was writing: "Instead of investing each woman with a different face, you take pleasure in reducing all women to an aperture, to a biological sameness. That is not very interesting, I say, not very much of an addition. It's a disease."

But literature must be served, and the letters continued. As did the heady self-absorption. War breaks out, and ends, without entering into their discourse. Only one letter makes any passing reference to it, and that is in 1944, when Nin mentions that the bank in Paris where she had left her journals for safekeeping "was not occupied by the Germans so I might find the diaries after all".

In the same letter she announces the end of her exile in America. It is now safe to return to Europe, and "the liberation I feel is undescribable [sic] — as if I had been living in a concentration camp." One expects writers to be selfish, to be nasty, to displease or to offend. Only, one would like them to be able to write.

A contemporary of Anaïs Nin and Henry Miller, Charles Addams drew the above cartoon for the *New Yorker* in 1957. It is taken from *The Addams Family Album*, published today by Hamish Hamilton at £7.99 (paperback).

Dangerous liaisons at dinner parties

Alison Roberts

NEVER MIND
By Edward St Aubyn
Heinemann, £13.99

Never mind about other people's feelings, never mind about their right to an identity, never mind about the incalculable damage one can inflict upon one's children if one tries. These are the lazy thoughts of David Melrose, Edward St Aubyn's thoroughly nasty hero, around whose improvised salon in Provence this first novel revolves.

David is married to Eleanor, an American. He lives off her vast and regal inheritance and has bullied her into a degraded alcoholism. The progress of three couples embroiled in three unattractive relationships is traced for a day and culminates in an anti-climactic (for both guest and reader) dinner party.

The book is almost Woolfian; nothing much happens except for the agonising rape of five-year-old Patrick Melrose — by David. This is the only gripping piece of writing in the book, absorbing in its horror. An atavistic probing of motives and relationships.

Just as David humiliates by manipulation, so his character is presented in an almost offensively manipulative way. His extreme handsomeness and thwarted musical genius, shot through with bitter self-hate, stir sympathies for a character who takes pleasure in stealing innocence. St Aubyn wants us to respect him: in the end the attempt to explain David's evil becomes an affront and his attraction stretches credulity.

St Aubyn skims the surface of subjects such as Freudianism and the snobbery of a certain class, offering a vague elucidation of characters through them. Nicholas Pratt wonders: "Why was the centre of his desire always in a place he had just deserted?", and this is related to his lifelong chasing after women.

What St Aubyn is good at is a clarity of expression which occasionally springs a trigger of private recognition. The descriptions of the boy Patrick are often exact: "After a while he no longer recognised what he was thinking and, just as a shop window sometimes prevents the onlooker from seeing the objects behind the glass and folds him instead in a narcissistic embrace, his mind ignored the impressions from the outside world and locked him in a daydream he could not have subsequently described."

If you are happy with the Peter Mayle version of a rather smug Englishman in Provence, do not read *Never Mind*. If, however, you are prepared to be fruitlessly puzzled by the nature of human evil, then do.

Sean French

FAT LAD
By Glenn Patterson
Chatto & Windus, £14.99

SMALL TIMES
By Russell Celyn Jones
Viking, £14.99

A MILD SUICIDE

By Christina Koning
Lime Tree, £13.99

DEAR VENUS
By Cassandra Brooks
Simon & Schuster, £13.99

In 1988 Glenn Patterson returned to live in Belfast and two years later the hero of his impressive second novel follows in his creator's footsteps. Drew Linden has been sent to the home city of his mother's family to manage the local branch of a new bookshop chain.

Like so many children of his island, Linden has emigrated and his involuntary return compels him to engage with a family and a country that he has tried to shake off. The ominous example before him is that of his older sister, Ellen, who abandoned the liberation of a new life in Canada in favour of a humdrum existence in the province. Patterson's Belfast is a city of contrasts: checkpoints and yuppie bars, hedonism and terrorism, a fragile prosperity awaiting the recession we know is on the way.

The course of Linden's thoroughly modern affair with a local designer is interrupted by accounts of his parents and grandparents in a Belfast that seems to belong to the early industrial age. There is a pungent, gritty authority to Patterson's rendering of a vanished society. This complicated assembly of past and present remains unfailingly lucid: my principal reservation concerns the too frequent occasions when Patterson's plain prose becomes drab and sloppy.

Nothing in Russell Celyn Jones's *Small Times* quite lives up to the excitement of its opening, as its hero, Harry, leads his band of designer-suited pickpocketing virtuosi on a triumphant progress through Oxford Street and the London Underground. We seem to be reading a thriller, but the year is 1987, a general election is looming and Harry is not just a crook but a symbol of the Thatcher years: "Ruthless power, violent success: these were the modern aphrodisiacs".

Harry engineers a meeting with Gabrielle, a beautiful actress whose purse he has acquired. When she discovers his trade she becomes fascinated with him and they become lovers. It is a meeting of two different worlds, Harry lives on a canal barge with a down-and-out waif and her baby while Gabrielle's boyfriend is Samson, a corrupt property developer facing a long prison term. But, as no reader will be surprised to discover, both worlds are really the same, except that Samson has money.

The plot is tiresomely schematic but Celyn Jones is a good writer, at his best when forgetting about his jejune analysis of society and instead retailing the mechanics of dipping and fencing. The intended irony is that Gabrielle loses interest in Harry when he stops being a criminal. The problem is that so does the reader.

Christina Koning displays the courage of a kamikaze pilot in having a character at a dinner party in her first novel, *A Mild Suicide*, ask rhetorically: "I mean, who wants to read another of those tedious novels where the characters sit around at dinner parties talking about art?" Koning must have known what she was doing in writing a book which contains everything for which the modern British novel is denounced, a story of academics and adultery, though in Edinburgh rather than Hampstead.

Saul, an American graduate student, begins a passionate love affair with the promiscuous Catherine. Then his wife Virginia arrives and tells him she is pregnant. Curiously, Adam Mars-Jones is quoted on the dustjacket praising Koning for "treating the eternal triangle as if it were an entirely fresh subject", when Koning's whole point is that these literary people cannot see anything except through literary archetypes. The problem, and it is a serious one, is that this perception is as ancient as literature itself. Nevertheless Koning can write beautifully and she is never tedious.

Dear Venus is the story of a woman who responds to her husband's infidelity by setting out to have sex with all the residents of her plush mews. Told in the letters exchanged between the main characters, the result is coarse, crass and relentlessly unfunny. The only evidence of any literary sensibility on the part of the author is the revelation from the publishers that Cassandra Brooke is a pseudonym. The publicity also reveals that Jilly Cooper has praised it, which suggests she must be the author, since the only other possibility is that more than one person likes it.

Barber cuts a dash in leap year

Cyril Ehrlich hails Rossini's bicentenary this week by assessing a new biography of Italy's musical "genius of animal spirits"

Mozart's shelf life has expired and an irresistible new product is in stock, precisely targeted for this leap year. Rossini, the complete Italian, was born on 29 February 1792. He dashed off a few dozen works, including a handful of masterpieces, became the world's most famous composer and then, at the age of 37, settled down to four decades of planned and prosperous early retirement: eating, drinking and talking, with virtuosity and jokes.

GIOACCHINO ROSSINI
The Reluctant Hero
By Alan Kendall
Gollancz, £20

The tunes are catchy; there are good old recordings already canned for reissue at full price; performances, books and media products have been lined up. And the merchandise is almost entirely opera, the only highbrow sector which still sells. As a pre-eminently exploitable asset, Rossini deserves a good year.

The real story is inevitably more complicated. Composition did not cease entirely with *Guillaume Tell* in 1829. There is the *Petite messe solennelle* (1864), neither small nor particularly solemn, and the delicious, unclassifiable, *Pèchés de vieillesse* (1857-68).

Artistic status, which used to bother people, has always been equivocal, with appropriate imagery for these post-modernist days. At the height of his fame there was frequent, not always merely jealous, disdain for the facility, brash effects, self borrowing and proliferation; though practically everyone agreed about *Il barbiere*, which survived every subsequent misfortune.

Rossini's posthumous reputation slumped until even Shaw felt guilt along with pleasure. Only Figaro and Rosina strutted the boards, and a handful of arias and overtures survived into the 20th century. The latter were magnificently displayed by Beecham and Toscanini, but few singers could give more than a hint of commensurate delights. Like Chopin, this music depended upon virtuosity and refinement, but its practitioners were dead. No Malibran appeared until the 1930s, when Conchita Supervia, all too briefly, sang the sparkling roulades of *Cenerentola* and *L'Italiana* with easy command and devastating charm. Comprehensive revival waited another generation, for Callas, Sutherland, Caballé, foreign travel, festivals, and the long playing record.

Reassessment would require a thorough requestioning of craft, environment and life, correcting the *bon viveur* image which disguised, probably deliberately, knowledge and craftsmanship. How was mastery achieved at such speed? What subtleties of melody, structure and key relationships lie beneath apparently routine patterns? How do we recreate adequate scores and conventions of interpretation? How can the biographer balance an ill-documented, preposterously busy and short working life, against a thickly recorded and mythologised lengthy retirement? Why did he quit?

Despite unresolved dilemmas, readers are already well served. There is Stendhal's interim report, published in 1824 and translated in 1956. Richard Osborne's exemplary "Master Musician" is available in paperback. Philip Gossett, the leading authority, contributes a lucid, unpretentious essay to the *New Grove* which summarises present knowledge and indicates gaps and possibilities with suitable ease and lack of pedantry. The essential economic and social history has been mastered and narrated with similar elegance by John Rosselli. A newcomer must therefore seek justification by adding fresh insights and vigour.

Alan Kendall handles music more confidently than history and biography. Indigestibly potted plots, unnecessarily specific dates, and the ubiquitous "however" litter the page: sure signs of a reluctance to grapple with essential chronology and thematic exposition. Extensively gruesome accounts of illness and treatment are presumably intended to contribute to the retirement question; but, like a similarly detailed, if more appetising, account of the meeting with Wagner, they fail to make their point.

Yet the elusive imponderables of changing public taste and ultimate place are approached with some insight. Kendall has a singer's just contempt for producer antics, a musician's grasp of technique and artifice, an experienced listener's sensitivity to changing fashions of perception and interpretation. For these reasons his introduction and "epilogue" deserve careful reading. The illustrations are quite excellent.

Professor Ehrlich has written histories of the piano and the music profession

MARY EVANS

A caricature by the French artist Gill of the 75 year old Rossini in 1867, from the periodical *La Lune*

Tea-time flesh cats

Robert Nye

COLLECTED POEMS
By Edgell Rickword
Edited by Charles Hobday
Carcanet Press, £18.95

PRIVATE PARTS
By Fiona Pitt-Kethley
Abacus paperback, £4.99

They flaunted gay shirts and a grand old vice . . . The line is from a poem by a neglected poet of the Twenties and Thirties, Edgell Rickword, a satire entitled "The Encounter", in which the narrator is accosted in a London street by a member of the artistic homosexual underworld, one Twittingpan, who regales him with all the latest literary gossip and recites to him verses of severe eroticism in which it is very hard to tell who is doing precisely what to whom, and why, and very doubtful whether anyone is enjoying it:

You must meet Iris, she who lives serene
in the intense confession of the obscene
and drags her tea-time sex-affair all fresh
to the dinner-table, like a cat with flesh.

The poem is redolent of an age, a style, a way of life. Today's more easy world will know nothing of it. Yet it still works on the page, as general satire of sexual manners, and in its time it went in deep. Only the other day, rereading Dylan Thomas's early letters to Pamela Hansford Johnson, I noticed (which his editor does not) that he had lifted the lines quoted above and passed them off as his own in an effort to convince her of his sophistication.

Rickword died ten years ago, having become a Marxist and written very little verse in his later life, though Charles Hobday has managed to dig out a few final specimens for his edition of the *Collected Poems*. It is the Twittingpan and earlier stuff that counts, and if there is not a lot of it then that is part of the point.

The chief impression that comes from Rickword's poems is one of reticence and necessity. Here is a man who did not write much more than he felt he *had* to write, so that his "collected" poems is really his own "selected" poems, the process of filtering having been done for us by the poet's own critical sense — and to judge the strength of that you have only to recall that Rickword was also the critic who cleared the way for Leavis and *Scrutiny* with his *Calendar of Modern Letters*.

The book begins with a handful of war poems quite unlike anyone else's. "I shall be mad if you get smashed about . . . " A soldier capable of addressing his own body with such dandyish spleen is plainly nearer Keith Douglas than Rupert Brooke. Rickword's few poems from the trenches have a curiously second world war smell about them. They are clean of solemn rhetoric — no praise and no protest, just acceptance of the facts, and a style founded upon wit and a will to live. He extended the same style in some notable erotic lyrics in the decade that followed:

Since I have seen you do those intimate things
that other men but dream of; lull asleep
the sinister dark forest of your hair
and tie the bows that stir on your calm breast
faintly as leaves that shudder in their sleep;
since I have seen your stocking swallow up,
a swift black wind, the flame of your pale foot . . .

Such sensuous celebrations were followed by a number of more ratiocinative things, poems about chaos and cosmogony, nearly always in strict metre and rhyming with a classical finality, and then the satires. Whether Rickword's involvement in politics inhibited or stopped his writing verse I cannot say. There are only fourteen poems dated later than 1938, and all of these are slight compared with the intense work he did at the height of his powers. Nevertheless, this volume is an impressive reminder of a neglected talent.

Fiona Pitt-Kethley is now a bit notorious, the Iris of our day, and her third book of verse contains, like its predecessors, plenty of bits of flesh picked over in the name of freely exploring contemporary sexuality. Her better poems are about the difficulty of being a woman poet in a misogynist literary world that would prefer her to be *a White-Goddess-substitute*.

I enjoyed the puzzled wit she brings to this predicament. Hers is the voice of a raucous romantic whose inspiration is disgust at the mediocre quality of the life that has been offered her so far. Her world is deliberately absurd and violent, yet — like Joyce's, who coined the word — her view of it is jocoserious. Tottering on the edge of doggerel, her art is a habit of never quite falling over. Or, if she does fall, she makes it look like a dive. At her best she is very simple and very sharp:

I think, if there's a Muse — if I were she —
I wouldn't like those men who claim to speak
my words when they are only using theirs.
I wouldn't want groupies who looked like Graves.

More of this, and less about her knickers, and she could be really good.

Frugal fabian snob

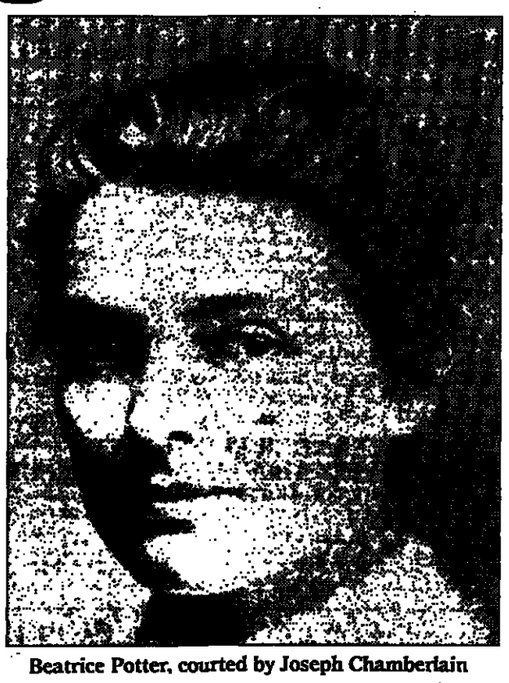
Dawn streaked the sky as the snow-speckled hills of Gloucestershire emerged from the darkness . . . In the master bedroom Lawrencina Potter tossed restlessly on the bed." That is how it begins.

But no, it is not that sort of book. Lawrencina Potter was tossing restlessly on her bed in 1858 because she was about to give birth to Beatrice — who, as Beatrice Webb, embraced with cerebral fervour the minutiae of social administration, co-founded the London School of Economics and the *New Statesman*, pre-visioned a national health service, and sat on more committees than she had hot dinners. (She was anorexic.)

Beatrice was the thoroughly unwelcome eighth daughter of Richard Potter, a railway magnate, and the clever, melancholic Lawrencina. Their next child was a longed-for son, who died when he was two. The tenth was another daughter, who assuaged Mrs Potter's grief as Beatrice could not. Beatrice, a bright and beautiful girl, was condemned by her rejecting mother as "below average in intelligence." No wonder she had an overwhelming need to belong and to achieve.

Beatrice's story is presented here much as she saw it herself. She wrote of her "duplex personality," and seemed always to be facing frightful choices — between ego and id, conscience and desire, mysticism and public life, austerity and social success. These dualities are emphasised so often that the reader may feel like protesting that such were the choices for many 19th-century women who were dowered, as Beatrice was, with good looks, enough money, and a critical intelligence. Beatrice, the "woman of conflict", was very interested in her own processes. Her conflicts, though they made her ill, were the breath of life to her.

She remains an inexhaustibly fascinating person, partly because of her energy and commitment and partly because her views seem to the modern mind mutually contradictory. She was intellectually independent, yet anti-women's suffrage. She knew and shared the life of the poor, yet remained snobbish and authoritarian.



Beatrice Potter, courted by Joseph Chamberlain

Victoria Glendinning

BEATRICE WEBB
Woman of Conflict
By Carole Seymour-Jones
Allison & Busby, £17.99

As a girl she was a disciple of the social philosopher Herbert Spencer, and absorbed from him a strong belief in self-help and individualism, and contempt for state intervention. Longing to dedicate herself to something, she transferred her mystical devotion from God to man, working on housing projects in the East End while remaining firm in her disapproval of charitable handouts.

Only when the Poor Law rates proved uncollectable did she shift her allegiance dramatically from individualism to collectivism and state intervention. She also developed what was to be her special contribution to welfare sociology — an insatiable appetite for collecting information and compiling facts, which made social diagnosis possible. Yet when giving evidence before Royal Commissions, she was capable of falsifying evidence and directing witnesses.

At 25, she fell desperately in love. She was fond of men, eternally castigating herself for her weakness and vanity. The object of her overpowering love and longing was the radical Birmingham businessman Joseph Chamberlain, then president of the Board of Trade under Gladstone, twice widowed and known to be looking for a new wife.

She struggled with her passion in her diaries, which have already been published in three volumes by Virago, so none of this is absolutely new. Beatrice was a brilliant diarist; Carole Seymour-Jones, in between her careful and inevitably laborious accounts of late-Victorian social legislation, might have done better to quote more and paraphrase less.

Chamberlain wanted a worshipful wife who would not contradict him. Beatrice, voluble and challenging, could never be she. In any case, he did not propose. Beatrice's biographer, in her tenderness for her subject, endorses Beatrice's face-saving belief that it was she who had renounced Chamberlain, and that she could have married him had she wanted. Michael Holroyd, in his biography of Shaw, asserts unequivocally that Chamberlain rejected Beatrice.

Holroyd also sums up admirably the nature of Beatrice's relationship with Sidney Webb, the clever, ugly, tadpole-bodied cockney civil servant whom the dynamic Beatrice married when she was over thirty. But then Holroyd did not have to grapple, as Seymour-Jones must, with the Webbs' weighty life-work.

Beatrice, in the Fabian Society, was reborn yet again as a socialist. The Webbs shared not only a devouring work-ethic but a devotion to the permeation of political life through the nascent Labour party, and the writing of what Beatrice called the "solid unreadable books" which were their child-substitutes.

It was a close marriage which left Beatrice sexually unfulfilled, but mentally and domestically reinforced. Marriage gave her a power-base. She used dinner parties (lots of talk, mainly from her, and not much dinner) to cement her political alliances. She admired Sidney's capabilities; but it was made horribly clear to him at the outset that she found him physically repellent and that she had sacrificed herself to marry him. He could not believe his luck.

In the 1930s she was born again yet one more time, as a communist. This was a return to the blind faith of her religious girlhood. Her uncritical emotional response was accompanied by a bigoted obsession with sexual immorality — rife everywhere except, of course, in the Soviet Union. Sidney followed where she led. The dear man was subjected to the same austere routines and frugal diet that she imposed on her rake-thin self. It is rather a relief to read that after her death he reverted swiftly to an egg-and-bacon breakfast.

Anti-oldies find a voice

Jo Shapcott

GRANDCHILDREN OF ALBION
An Illustrated Anthology of Voices and Visions of Younger Poets in Britain
Edited by Michael Horovitz
New Departures, £9.99

In 1969 Michael Horowitz edited the anthology *Children of Albion: Poetry of the Underground in Britain* for Penguin. The sequel and showcase for the next generation, *Grandchildren of Albion: An Illustrated Anthology of Voices and Visions of Younger Poets in Britain*, is, Horovitz claims, only one of several sequels he has in mind.

Large dreams, great visions fuel this enterprise. Horovitz has fought his battles through the Albion anthologies, his New Departures editions and the Poetry Olympics readings which he started in 1980 "to restore adventure, enjoyment, answerability and internationalism to a climate of poetry readings which was then by and large in the little-Englandist doldrums".

When *Children of Albion* came out in 1969, Ted Hughes wrote that "for me it is full of surprises, real new beginnings". In 1992, Albion's grandchildren provide fewer surprises simply because many of the voices here already have large and enthusiastic audiences for their work: John Agard, Sujata Bhatt, Merle Collins, Carol Ann Duffy, Linton Kwesi Johnson, Grace Nichols, Fiona Pitt-Kethley, Benjamin Zephaniah.

No-one could make the claim for these grandchildren that they are underground poets like those featured in the 1969 anthology, even though, for the new book, Horovitz has tended to choose work where the poet takes the role of outsider or critic.

Adventure, enjoyment, answerability and internationalism can be found in abundance in *Grandchildren of Albion* and it may be a measure of some of the changes that Horovitz has been working for that these ideas have now burrowed right to the heart of contemporary poetry in all its forms.

The plurality, vibrancy and health of contemporary poetry in Britain are in the hands of many of those included in *Grandchildren of Albion*, poets who are read and heard widely, respected and enjoyed. It is a pleasure to see them in this new context. A major drawback of the anthology is that there are too few surprises and new beginnings among the many less well-known poets included, although the Slovene Ifigenija Zagoricnik was one who reached out and grabbed.

But *Grandchildren of Albion* still has plenty of shocks in store. For a start, the book looks unusual, designed to ambush us at every turn. It begins on page 17. Pages one to 16, the introduction and rationale, are published elsewhere.

The poems and lyrics are interspersed with illustrations, some by the poets themselves. Drawings and sketches crawl all over the pages and it is a pity that too often they are not intrinsically interesting enough to avoid making a clutter of an already substantial book.

Horovitz has deliberately chosen to include work which blurs the boundaries of poetry: poems which move towards graphic art in their presentation, song lyrics — sometimes a song complete with musical notation. It is certainly not all poetry for the page, and even excellent lyricists and performance poets sometimes look weak in this context, alongside writers like Sujata Bhatt who are favoured by the page.

Perhaps it is impossible to play out the intention of this anthology between book covers at all. Poetry, as Horovitz has Beckett remind us in the dedication, "is not only to be read. It is to be looked at, and listened to".

What drives a man to spend his life studying the minds of psychopathic killers? **Jay Rayner** meets forensic psychiatrist Dr Jeremy Coid

With murder in mind

The buildings, so solemn and forbidding, could have been designed with Dr Jeremy Coid in mind. Today the home of the old Hackney hospital, they were built as a workhouse in the reign of Queen Victoria but are only now coming to maturity. The red bricks have had more than a century in which to suck up the smoke and belching fumes of city life; they have turned a colour as thick and dark as clotted blood.

This is the perfect setting for a man whose job involves poking around the murderous mind. As a consultant forensic psychiatrist for the North East Thames health authority, a vast area that takes in some of the most deprived parts of Essex and London's East End, Dr Coid is employed to diagnose and treat the criminally insane. He has to assess an offender's mental state, usually for sentencing purposes.

'I see my patients for light relief. They are fascinating. They cram more into six months than I would in six years'

Just as the buildings fit the job, so does the location: this bit of Hackney is one of the most violent areas of Britain. As a result, Dr Coid can claim to have more experience of mentally deranged violent criminals than almost anyone in his profession. Combined with his special interest in psychopaths, a little-studied group, it is no surprise that when Thames TV was looking for an expert for the final programme in its documentary series *Murder Squad* it chose Dr Coid.

He is a neat man in his early forties. His tidy, understated attire makes him look as though he would be just as comfortable in a surgery in Harley Street, attending to the confusions of the rich and well-connected. Instead he is here, in this office with its walls of bare brick, painted over in sickly shades of gloss paint like hospitals and schools the nation over. It is just across the courtyard from the secure unit where his 12 in-patients reside.

Dr Coid would not have it any other way. He came to forensic psychiatry by way of a degree in medicine at Sheffield. "I remember as a trainee in forensics listening to a patient describe how he had murdered someone," he says. "It was one of the most fascinating things I had ever heard." An 18-month placement at Broadmoor followed by a stint at a secure unit in Maidstone led him to Hackney.

His job, he says enthusiastically, is a great one for getting to know your local patch. "I listen to the Thames News every night to find out if the police have got hold of someone I might be seeing in the coming weeks."

The catalogue of violence that punctuates our news broadcasts does not depress him. "All of us have a fascination with murder and crime to some degree. That's why programmes like *Crimewatch UK* are successful. Perhaps forensic psychiatrists have a greater fascination than the majority. If anybody in the profession told you otherwise they would be lying." Dr Coid admits to reading the odd novel by Thomas Harris, the author of *Silence of the Lambs*.

A forensic psychiatrist must be a detective. He must gain from his patients — Dr Coid calls them clients — a full picture of their mental state, just as a policeman tries to build a picture of the way a crime was committed from interviews with witnesses and suspects. "I always get the client to talk me through the details of the crime. The more experienced you become the more you hope you can't have the wool pulled over your eyes. Of course, I'd be lying if I said I'd always managed it."

Does he not find the details of these crimes disturbing? "One overcomes one's squeamishness," he says. "You're able to detach your own emotional feelings. If you were horrified by everything you heard you couldn't do the job. You have to know what the person felt like when they were committing the crime to understand.

"Actually I go to see my patients for light relief. These are fascinating people. They cram more into their lives in six months than I probably would in six years. What I find really stressful is dealing with medical politics and budget plans. That's what wakes me up with a headache in the mornings."

His role, he says, is to be their doctor. In spite of what these people have done he finds he likes the majority of them. Of the 60 people he will personally assess in a year — half the total for the area as a whole — about 10 per cent will be charged with murder. Ninety per cent of those admitted for treatment are male and more than 50 per cent are black. In most cases they are single or separated and between the ages of 18 and 25, "though I did once see an 80-year-old granny who had murdered both her husbands. That was odd."

According to Dr Coid, the biggest problem when making his assessment is a lack of information. "If I have been called in by the defendant's solicitor because they are pleading insane, I'll have all the medical records I could ever wish for. But when the prison authorities feel an assessment is needed you have very little to work with."

So is it abnormal to commit murder? "Is it an abnormal act? In terms of psychiatry, one cannot say that. However, to kill your wife with an axe and then pour petrol all over her, for example, you can't have been in a normal state of mind. But that doesn't mean you are mentally ill. I think a lot of people are capable of murder but will never do it."

Dr Coid's special interest in those who are not only capable of murder but want to do it, those termed psychopaths, stems from a belief that the category suffers a diagnosis problem. "The patients I see for my research are detained under the legal category of psychopathic disorder but the definition of that is very loose. It amounts to little more than that you are exceedingly odd so this is the label we are going to give you. It doesn't explain anything at all.

"I don't think that's good enough. Medical practice involves diagnosis and prognosis. If we're not even at the diagnosis stage then we have a problem."

So far Dr Coid has identified two categories of psychopath. There are those with sadistic fantasies such as Dennis Nilsen and the Milwaukee serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer, who both associated sex with killing. Then there are those who simply have a compulsive urge to kill.

"The compulsive urge phenomenon is not well described in the psychiatric literature," Dr Coid says. "In this country, many of those with that urge have held back their desires. Generally they want to be taken out of circulation, to be put in prison."

Dr Coid is married to a research psychologist, although he does not share all the details of his cases with her. They are expecting their first child. Does his involvement with so much violence, if only at second-hand, make him wary of bringing a new person into the world? "Perhaps we are more violent than we were 50 years ago, but I think we are probably less violent than we were 50 years before that." He stares at the bare wall before him for a moment and says: "These things go in cycles."

Asked what is the most bizarre case he has ever come across, he stares at the wall once more, as though searching for an answer. "There are so many. What would you call bizarre? I have seen one man who wants to bathe in his victim's blood. He has killed once and would very much like to kill again. I suppose that would be the most bizarre, but only of late."

● *Dr Coid appears in Murder Squad, Thames TV, 9pm, Tuesday, March 17*

MARTIN BEDDALL

A cool look at murder: Dr Coid says that the legal category of psychopathic disorder is very loose — "It amounts to little more than that you are exceedingly odd"

Ringing in the changes

Weddings used to be about tradition. Now they are about breaking it — in style. Nicole Swengley explains how

Scottish chic: Young's tartan outfit, made to measure, from £295; cost of hiring, £49.95

Getting to the church on time may be the least of a bride or groom's worries this year. Foremost in their minds could be the cost of a traditional wedding with trimmings (about £8,000) or the desire to create a highly individual occasion or to bypass the razzmatazz altogether.

The current economic climate is encouraging some designers to produce dresses costing well below the typical £1,000 mark. Sally Crawford (0332 380104) now does silk dresses from £500. She says: "I felt there was a gap in the market for designer dresses at this price." Judy Mott (0892 510107) has classic silk styles from £500 while London designer Ritva Westenius (071-581 3878) offers a hand-made silk range from £750.

At Harrods (071-730 1234) there are Ronald Joyce silk dresses for less than £500. Off-the-peg dresses at Berketex (0908 669977 for local branches) start at £295. For those who are less budget-conscious, made-to-measure dresses by leading designers including Catherine Rayner, the 1991 bridal wear Designer of the Year, can be chosen at Selfridges' new Wedding Wardrobe department (071-629 1234).

It is much cheaper to hire bridal wear — and it could help others. The Cancer Research Campaign has opened a bridal hire shop in Uckfield, East Sussex (0825 767 6171), offering dresses from £40, children's dresses from £15, morning suits from £25 and veils from £7.50. Anybody booking morning suits before March 31 for use this year can hire four suits for the price of three at Moss Bros (071-924 1717 for local branches). Three-piece suits start at £39.70.

Scottish grooms can hire a complete outfit in Royal Stewart or Hunting McIntyre tartan from Youngs' New Highland collection for £49.95 (0282 72577 for local branches). For £295, they can buy a made-to-measure kilt in their own clan tartan. The price includes hire of jacket, shirt, sporran and accessories. For an extra £10, anybody unsure of their clan can have the information researched. At this year's annual Designer Show for Brides, held in London each January, six top designers, including Lyn Ashworth (071-486 4275), introduced rich tartan gowns.

> 'The trend is to create your own special look'

For 1992, dresses are being individualised with deep colours. Those by Anneliese Sharp (071-229 6929) use bottle green, while several other designers, including Jenny Burgess (081-941 7642) and Helen Marina (071-700 0050) are using black lace and velvets to contrast with white silks. A strong period theme also characterises the more flamboyant dresses, such as Anneliese Sharp's Anne Boleyn look and Tracy Connop's Marie Antoinette (0242 583058). Louise Hamlin-Wright's flouncy dresses with their massed gold and flowers hark back to the Elizabethan era (023 371 2868).

Shoes also reflect the desire for a thoroughly individual outfit. Hanna Goldman, a shoe designer (071-739 2690), says: "Brides want to feel special and the trend now is to create your own distinctive look." She encourages clients to choose their own materials, colour, heel type and decoration.

Emma Hope's hand-made shoes (071-833 2367) can be hand-embroidered or hand-worked with cherubs, crystal or hand-dyed roses to add a personal touch.

The choice of reception venue is becoming less conventional as fewer couples request a marquee on the lawn. Party organisers White Tie (071-498 7855) specialise in creating themed events and will handle everything from devising the concept to finding the venue. Diana Christie-Miller, the joint director, says: "The classic comment is 'I want something different'. We organised one wedding reception where everything from china to cake was black and white."

Couples who want to personalise their wedding cake can call Jane Asher Cakes (071-584 6177), where traditional fruit cakes are giving way to iced sponges crowned by iced cupids, wedding teddy bears or entwined swans. American-style chocolate cakes with pillar-free tiers are popular. Ms Asher says: "I don't think you want something too subtle or understated for such a personal occasion. It is a good opportunity to do something exciting and over-the-top. Even if it is traditional, it should be really glamorous."

A desire for something different is even being extended to wedding flowers, with garlands and hoops helping to keep bridesmaids from straying. Caroline Dickenson, a London florist (071-245 9599) says: "People are becoming more confident, using vibrant colours and masses of foliage."

One thing that has not changed much, however, is the choice of ring. Although Richard Ogden (071-493 9136) reports brisk sales in diamond-set wedding rings, the top choice for engagements at Tiffany (071-409 2790) remains a diamond solitaire in a six-claw setting, pioneered in the 1870s.

Period piece: designers such as Tracy Connop look to the past

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An individual with exceptional leadership qualities, drive and professional ability is sought to join Trent's Board as an Executive Director. He or she will be expected to make a major contribution to the development of policies and strategies for the Region on a corporate basis and to provide leadership for the Finance Function during an exacting, demanding and fast-moving period of change in the NHS. Trent is proud of its record of sound financial management and the postholder will be expected to maintain this whilst helping to develop the contracting skills which will ensure that the Region's money works best for patient services.

Applicants should be professionally qualified and able to demonstrate a successful track record of financial management at a senior level in a large and complex organisation. The Finance Director works with staff from all disciplines in the NHS and good interpersonal and communication skills are essential.

Trent Health is based in a pleasant semi-rural area of Sheffield, close to open countryside. The salary package and associated benefits, which include performance related bonus, pension scheme, car and generous relocation package, are negotiable and will not prove a barrier to the right candidate.

If you wish to discuss the post informally, please contact Ken Punt, Director of Finance, on (0742) 630300. An information pack is available from Liz Brownhill ext. 275 or write to Acting Director of Personnel, Fulwood House, Old Fulwood Road, Sheffield S10 3TH. Closing date 20th March 1992. Please quote reference EAB 093.

Trent Health aims to be an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

TRENT health

LEATHAMS LARDER

Based in Central London, Leathams Larder Plc is a well established independent group manufacturing and distributing specialist foods. Our commitment to "Quality without Compromise" has ensured our position as a market leader, serving the top names within the food industry while operating on a 24 hour basis.
Due to our continued expansion programme, a vacancy now exists for:

DAY OPERATIONS MANAGER

Experienced ambitious team leader with hands-on management skills needed to assume total control of day to day operations, principally warehousing and distribution in the fast moving chilled food sector.
Ideally aged 30-40 of degree calibre, and with previous computer experience. Initial salary £25K+ plus car.
In addition we need bright young graduates in the following positions.

ASSISTANT TO OPERATIONS MANAGER

Enthusiastic potential man-manager required to fulfil supporting operational role as above, previous industrial experience preferable. Salary c.£15K

FOOD TECHNOLOGIST

Self starter with suitable science degree required to assist the company and its suppliers in conforming to the latest food and hygiene legislation. Salary c.£15K.

STOCK CONTROLLER

Strong organiser to monitor and control high value/high volume stock holding, must be highly numerate and methodical. Salary c.£15k
Applicants should forward a current C.V. with covering letter stating present salary and the position applied for to: Janet Chisholm, Leathams Larder Plc, 1/1A Bethwin Road, Camberwell, London SE5 OYJ.

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TSL

ACCOUNT MANAGERS
EXCELLENT SALES OPPORTUNITIES

Text Systems Limited, a well-established Systems Integrator is looking for experienced salespeople for the company's expanding systems division.

Candidates should have a proven track record in selling integrated solutions, experience of the insurance or legal market would be advantageous. Opportunities exist for experienced salespeople to sell:

- Banyan, Novell and Imaging solutions.
- A specialist range of telecommunications products ranging from sophisticated LAN Bridges to secure dial-back systems.
- Unix, AIX and DOS-based integrated solutions.

Successful candidates can expect a generous remuneration package along with benefits associated with a position of this nature.

These are rare opportunities within a young and dynamic profitable organisation. Please write enclosing your full Curriculum Vitae to: Crispin Coulson, Text Systems Limited, TSL House, 16-18 Marshalsea Road, London SE1 1HL. (No Agencies Please)

☎ 071-481 4481 **EXECUTIVE OPPORTUNITIES** FAX 071-782 7826

Purchasing Manager

Information Technology Manufacturer

Thames Valley

c £45,000, Car, Benefits

A rare opportunity exists within a major IT Company to ESTABLISH a value added Purchasing function. You will be expected to reduce costs of products, goods, and services, monitor contractual terms with vendors, to reduce commercial risk, and establish long term supplier relationships *involving major purchasing* negotiations.

Reporting to the Finance Director you will be accountable for a Purchase Ledger of circa. £30 million ranging from hardware, software, and spares, to traditional office supplies. Aged 35-45, probably a graduate and Member of the Institute of Purchasing you will have a minimum of eight years' purchasing experience, including at least three years in a management role. Detailed knowledge of hardware and software procurement with a computer manufacturer or major IT User is essential together with commercial expertise related to risk assessment and contractual negotiations at executive level. A second position for a Purchasing Executive at circa. £25,000 is also available, reporting to the Purchasing Manager.

Candidates should submit a detailed CV showing career achievements to:– Mr. C. Peters, **Hoggett Bowers plc**, 1/2 Hanover Street, LONDON, W1R 9WB, *quoting Ref*: H11032/ST.

Hoggett Bowers

BIRMINGHAM, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, EDINBURGH, LEEDS, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, WINDSOR and representation throughout EUROPE

Operations Director

Electronic Assemblies

South Wales

c £45,000, Car, Bonus/Equity Package

In the highly competitive European contract assembly market, Race Electronics has achieved unparallelled growth and now has a leading producer reputation with major international customers. This success has resulted in the need for a restructuring into separate business units dealing with discrete customer groups. Reporting to the Managing Director, you will be accountable for all aspects of the profitable operation of a unit with its own site, around 350 people and a turnover around £35 million and growing. Ideally a graduate calibre engineer, you will essentially have broad manufacturing management experience in progressive, high volume, high flexibility electronics assembly preferably in a plant with significant surface mount capability. *This position has general* management breadth and you will need a sharp commercial eye, a success record in coping with huge logistics challenges in materials and resource utilisation and a shirtsleeves approach towards getting things done. The excellent package includes relocation and there is real potential for career growth.

Male or female candidates should submit in confidence a *comprehensive c.v. to, A.D. Pegge*, **Hoggett Bowers plc**, 90 Queen Street, CARDIFF, CF1 4ER, 0639-721888, Fax: 0639-722622, *quoting Ref*: D19015/ST.

Hoggett Bowers

BIRMINGHAM, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, EDINBURGH, LEEDS, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, WINDSOR and representation throughout EUROPE

Factory Manager

FMCG Manufacturing

South West

c £40,000 including Bonus. Car, Stock Options

This significant and impressive facility, part of a major international group, manufactures a range of very well-known leading brands, and has a turnover in excess of £100m. As a result of an internal promotion a vacancy exists for a factory manager who will be responsible for all operations at this complex site with over 500 employees. Applicants, probably aged 35-50, must be technically qualified graduates, ideally in chemical engineering with a significant track record at a senior level in FMCG manufacturing within major organisations. A decisive man-manager with strong leadership skills you must be able to demonstrate a record of achievement in terms of introducing change and improvements to the operations which you have managed, and your experience must have been in a quality focussed environment (eg. BS5750, TQM, JIT and continuous improvement). This is an excellent career opportunity for an individual who can provide effective leadership to the operations management team in a growing business. The attractive fringe benefits package *will include* a substantial bonus incentive, share options, company car, plus relocation assistance where appropriate to this very attractive area.

Male or female candidates should submit in confidence a comprehensive c.v. to, M. Stein, **Hoggett Bowers plc**, Brunswick House, 61-69 Newmarket Road, CAMBRIDGE, CB5 8EG, 0223-324441, Fax: 0223-323250, *quoting Ref*: F21020/ST.

Hoggett Bowers

BIRMINGHAM, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, EDINBURGH, LEEDS, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, WINDSOR and representation throughout EUROPE

A Dynamic Marketing Environment

A Focused Business Strategy

- **Do you bring both exceptional creativity and sound, well considered judgement to your marketing initiatives?**
- **Do you invariably gain the attention of others and get their commitment to what you propose?**
- **Do you really enjoy a challenge and overcoming obstacles to achieve measurable results?**
- **Have you an outstanding ability to think strategically, prioritise and follow through?**
- **Are you a highly motivated person, setting yourself stretching targets to achieve?**
- **Do you pride yourself on your professionalism and highly responsible attitude?**
- **Are you aware of the power in building close, positive relationships with those with whom you work?**

Key to the success of Volvo Concessionaires has been a consistent strategy, coupled with imaginative marketing of products renowned for saftey, reliability and durability.

We are now seeking a highly talented 'AFTERSALES MARKETING MANAGER' capable of taking major marketing initiatives to further develop our total range of Aftersales products and services. Reporting to the Marketing Director, you will lead a team responsible for planning, developing and executing marketing strategies to drive forward the £250m Aftersales operation and enhance still further our high levels of customer retention.

A stretching brief and one that calls for a marketeer of the highest calibre. Of graduate level and ideally in your 30's, you will, in all probability, have knowledge of the Aftersales business or a background including logistics, management sciences or business analysis.

In addition to an excellent salary and an outstanding benefits package, we also offer the backing and opportunity for you to attain real success in an environment which will recognise and reward your achievements.

If you are genuinely interested in this challenging opportunity based in Marlow, Buckinghamshire please call Sharon Masson at the Varsity Recruitment Centre (Consultants advising on this key position) on 0932 828528. Sunday 23rd February: 10.00am - 2.00pm. Office hours: 8.30am - 7.00pm.

VOLVO

Closing date: 28th February 1992.

SRI

DUBAI CREEK GOLF CLUB

GENERAL MANAGER

This is an exciting opportunity to play a key role in the success of the Creek Golf Course and Marina Club situated in the centre of Dubai. The Creek project has already attracted worldwide interest and acclaim.

The General Manager will be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Golf Course and Marina Complex. Communication and promotional skills are essential to ensure timely information is effectively transmitted to members, guests and also the international golfing fraternity. In addition to the ongoing responsibilities for development of business, monitoring income and expenditure and management reporting functions, the successful applicant will recruit and supervise all department heads, eg., golf director, marina manager, etc.

The ideal candidate will have a proven track record in a similar function, and a sound knowledge and understanding of the game of golf, and marina operation.

The obvious status associated with this unique project is supported by an attractive remuneration package including a basic salary and performance related bonus. Living accommodation, car and membership privileges will be included within the package.

Written replies with full Curriculum Vitae in strict confidence to:

The Government
Project Co-ordinator
Dubai Creek Golf Club
P O Box 12188
Dubai
United Arab Emirates

نادي جولف خور دبي
DUBAI CREEK GOLF CLUB

Risk Manager, International.

Salary negotiable (£30K-40K), plus benefits.

We are a worldwide environmental services company seeking an experienced professional to fill a newly created position of Risk Manager, International.

This London based position provides a number of services to our international subsidiaries including the establishment and management of safety and claims management programmes, administration of insurance programmes, and co-ordination of programmes with our US corporate office.

Candidates should be graduate calibre, preferably with professional qualifications. You will need to have a minimum of 10 years experience as a Risk Manager in insurance, safety and claims. Experience in European employee benefits would be a plus.

Please send c.v. to:
WMI Waste Management International, Human Resources Office, Windsor House, 55-56 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1LA (no telephone calls please).

WMI Waste Management International

GENERAL MANAGEMENT IN RETAIL.

The leading department store group requires the expertise of managers for their department stores in the U.K., who have been involved in senior management retailing for at least ten years.

Responsibilities will embrace producing the required profits, planning, directing and controlling the day to day running of the sales floor in order to optimise customer service, presentation and housekeeping, visual merchandising, promotional activities, shrinkage and budgets are also key functions.

To be effective in these positions, candidates will need attention to detail, commitment, a high energy level and the need for change and the determination to implement it. Excellent interpersonal skills are also essential.

If you meet the above requirement, please apply in writing enclosing a full C.V., including details of present salary and benefits to:

Peter Wallace, Personnel Controller,
House of Fraser (Stores) Limited,
1 Howick Place, London, SW1P 1BH.

HOUSE OF FRASER

THE SOUTH BANK CENTRE

Retail and Commercial Manager

The South Bank Centre is Europe's largest centre for the arts and provides an unsurpassed range of events at its three concert halls and the Hayward Gallery.

We are currently seeking a Retail and Commercial Manager to develop our retail and services facilities at the Royal Festival Hall and Hayward Gallery. Experience of managing concessions, including catering, in a large venue will be a distinct advantage.

We require candidates to possess at least 3 years' retail management experience and a good overall knowledge and experience of marketing, preferably within an arts or leisure environment.

The position also demands excellent negotiating and communication skills, as well as proven ability to motivate staff, both directly and through a franchise operation.

Salary within the range £19,961 – £24,891 according to experience. The appointment will be on a two-year contract.

For further details and an application form, please send a large stamped addressed envelope to the Personnel Department, South Bank Centre, Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 8XX. No CV's please. Closing date for return of completed application forms: Wednesday 11th March and initial interviews will take place on Monday 23rd March 1992.

The South Bank Board welcomes applications from all sections of the Community regardless of race, colour, ethnic or national origins, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientations, disability or religious beliefs.

The World's No.1 Centre for the Arts

071-481 4481 **EXECUTIVE OPPORTUNITIES** FAX 071-782 7826

OIL INDUSTRY CONSULTANTS

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Our client – the Business Consultancy arm of a major financial services group – is seeking two consultants to join its downstream oil team.
Established for nearly 20 years in the oil industry, this Edinburgh-based consultancy has earned a world class reputation for the quality of its work and the pedigree of its client base which covers the industry and investment sectors.

Oil Marketing Consultant

The successful candidate will lead a team designing and developing a consultancy product covering oil marketing and distribution in Europe, an area of expansion for the group.
A good degree and a minimum of 5 years' oil industry experience with at least 3 years in retail/wholesale oil product marketing is essential. International experience and a second European language would be an advantage.
This demanding and interesting position will require outstanding communication and analytical skills and the credibility necessary to deal successfully with clients at senior level. It will offer those currently on the fast-track within their own organisation the opportunity to become a leading oil consultant.

Oil Analyst

Focusing on the downstream market your responsibilities will stretch from research and analysis to report writing and marketing the team's services. One of your priorities will be to develop influential contacts – a senior-level dialogue that will help you to become a leading commentator on oil internationally.
A good degree is essential, as is at least 2 years' general experience of the downstream oil industry. You should be an outstanding communicator with excellent writing skills – perhaps as a journalist currently working for one of the quality oil industry publications. Computer literacy is also essential and you should ideally possess a second European language.

The excellent career prospects reflect the stature of the company and are supported by a competitive remuneration package including low cost mortgage, company car and non contributory pension scheme.
Please write with full CV, stating the names of any organisation to which your application should not be forwarded, to T.G. West, Managing Director, Ref. 460, Associates in Advertising, 5 St. John's Lane, London EC1M 4BH.

ASSOCIATES IN ADVERTISING

SALES MANAGEMENT

RPC Containers **Northants**

RPC Containers are rapidly building an enviable reputation for the quality and technical excellence of their plastic packaging for the food industry. With a modern, purpose built factory, latest generation production equipment and a wide customer base, including many "blue chip" names, they are ideally placed to optimise the business opportunities available in this sophisticated growth market.

SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER

Negotiable to £30k+Car

Resulting from internal promotion, the company seeks a professional Sales and Marketing Manager to drive the continuing growth and development of sales both in the UK and overseas. As a member of the Executive Management Team, the Sales and Marketing Manager will also enjoy a wider role in determining the strategic direction and future prosperity of the business.

PRODUCT SALES MANAGER

c.£21k (ote £25k)+Car

This challenging role, reporting to the Sales and Marketing Manager, carries responsibility for the management of existing major accounts in multi-layer blow-moulding and thermoforming and the sourcing and development of new business.

The successful candidates will be of graduate calibre with extensive sales management experience in plastic packaging for food. Both positions require a level of technical competence necessary to operate successfully at senior level in this demanding market place. These unique and challenging opportunities each offer a highly attractive rewards and benefits package.

Please write with full CV quoting Ref: 5078 for Sales and Marketing Manager and Ref: 5088 for Product Sales Manager to Arthur Critchley, Barnes Kavelle Ltd., Human Resource Consultancy, Cavendish House, Queen Street, Mirfield, West Yorkshire WF14 8AH.

RECRUITING BARNES KAVELLE EXCELLENCE

PURCHASING ◆ CONSULTANTS

"DRAMATICALLY IMPROVE OUR CLIENTS' PROFITABILITY"

MARKET LEADING SALARY + BONUS + EQUITY PROSPECTS

ADR operates as a specialised consultancy committed to making purchasing a company strength. Working from the UK, but across Continental Europe, North America and Asia Pacific, we have excelled at producing measurable cost improvements that significantly boost profits for our clients.

Due to planned expansion, our need is to add to our team, purchasing professionals who possess:

- Expert purchasing skills with a proven record of achievement in vigorously managing purchasing costs;
- Acute awareness of the profit potential from purchasing, together with the commercial acumen to realise that potential with suppliers;
- A personal preference for working in an unsupervised manner while applying leading edge purchasing practices and cost management techniques;
- Wholehearted commitment to client satisfaction and our joint success.

Age of consultants is less important than professional maturity gained by applying the very best purchasing practices for a minimum of seven years. There will be no requirement to relocate but you must be prepared to work away from home, both in the UK and overseas.

To apply, please send your C.V., in confidence, to Jon Hughes at ADR:

The Old Court House, London Road,
Ascot, Berkshire, SL5 7ER
Tel: 0344- 28631 Fax: 0344- 873205

ADR DEVELOPING LEADERS IN PURCHASING WORLDWIDE

INFORMATION SYSTEMS PROJECT MANAGEMENT
FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTOR

Deliver your potential

You already possess a wealth of project management experience, including large-scale package implementation, the application of structured methods, formal project management techniques, plus systems development.

Now it's time to capitalise on your knowledge, with an important career move which offers challenge, opportunity and reward in equal measure; the management of high-value, high-profile, long-term IS projects for a variety of blue-chip clients both in the UK and throughout Europe.

You will be joining a leading firm of management consultants and accountants with an international reputation for providing effective business solutions. Ideally, you will have a good degree and eight years' financial sector background - specifically in insurance, retail banking or the capital markets - four of which should have been spent in a project management role. One or more European languages would be a distinct advantage.

In your current position, you're a team-builder, with excellent interpersonal skills; and your thorough, analytical approach complements your undoubted ambition and determination. You're pragmatic, with hands-on experience of all aspects of the development life cycle, sensitive to corporate culture, yet strong enough to command the respect of senior management. In short, you have the credibility, practicality and maturity the position demands.

When we add to our team, we choose people of the highest calibre and reward them accordingly. If you consider you have a contribution to make, please write, enclosing your CV, to Peter Robin, Partner, Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, Plumtree Court, London EC4A 4HT, quoting Ref ST012 on both envelope and letter.

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Tel: 071-930 5041 Fax: 071-930 5048

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As a wholly owned subsidiary of IMI plc, one of Britain's largest industrial concerns, we have financial strength and commitment to continued expansion. We are therefore growing our winning team with additional sales professionals who share our values and aspirations.

It would be advantageous if your experience had come through selling in the Open Systems environment where our products are held in the highest regard. However, of even greater importance is your drive and ambition to win, and your skill and capability to sell high-value total business solutions and deal at all levels in multi-national corporates.

In order to succeed you will need to be an ambitious self-starter with a high degree of personal pride who has the personality and communication skills to establish close contacts throughout the company and with business partners. For those who have proved themselves, opportunities in sales management will become available.

You are probably now earning well, but you know that your ability could earn you more if only you had the product and the company – that is what we offer.

Start talking to us soon. Begin by calling David Woodhead at our advising consultants, Cathy Tracey & Associates Limited, today between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm on 0252 842816. Alternatively fax your CV to David on 0734 771223 or post it to him at the address below, quoting reference ***DW791****.*

CTA
Cathy Tracey & Associates Ltd
Staverton House, 3-5 Easthampstead Road, Wokingham
Berkshire, RG11 2EH. Tel: 0734 771100 Fax: 0734 771223

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT CHAMPION

A LEADER WITH VISION

Substantial package including stock options

IXI Limited is a fast expanding market driven international software company, with an exceptional range of products designed for high growth markets. From a Cambridge base we already have successful operations in the United States and Japan.

The company is searching for a "world class" Product Development Manager to lead and develop a young, brilliant team of engineers. In addition to providing technical focus and leadership, the role will have a high technical content to ensure that IXI develops and refines high quality, industry leading products – both OEM and Shrink Wrap. It is essential for the person appointed to have a strong vision and intimate knowledge of what the market wants, both now and in the future.

We would like to discuss this entrepreneurial role with highly motivated people who meet the following criteria: you will have at least four years' experience of C, UNIX, Graphical User environments, and leading software development projects for products (not bespoke software). You will have excellent communication skills, high intellectual abilities and experience with business relationships.

If you feel that you can contribute to the IXI success story, send your curriculum vitae as quickly as possible to our consultants. Please address your reply, quoting reference PDM/IXI/GK, to Geoffrey King, Managing Director, Cambridge Recruitment Consultants, 11 King's Parade, Cambridge, CB2 1SJ. Tel 0223 311316; Fax 0223 316152.

IXI

☎ 071-481 4481 **EXECUTIVE OPPORTUNITIES** FAX 071-782 7826

SENIOR MANAGER - DIGITAL SWITCHING

A key man-management and technical role

Excellent package South East

Our Client, a highly successful and profitable division of an international telecomms operator is now set to enhance and further develop its Network.

Meeting such growth and maintaining the highest standards is achieved through a commitment to quality that permeates throughout the organisation.

To be able to meet its objective, our Client is looking for an experienced telecomms industry professional with strong management and technical expertise, to ensure the provision of a leading edge switched network.

This senior role will include managing a staff of up to 100 as well as controlling substantial capital expenditure and operational budgets. Of chartered engineer status and preferably with a business qualification e.g. MBA, you should have a minimum of 15 years experience within the telecommunications industry with a thorough understanding of Digital Switching Technology & Planning.

First class communication skills, the ability to excel within a pressurised environment and a strong customer oriented attitude are essential prerequisites for this high-profile position.

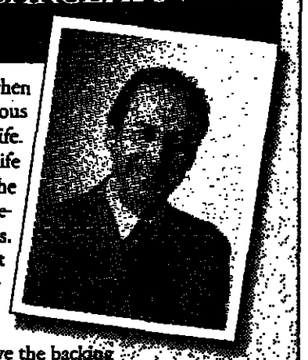
The salary will reflect the undoubted importance of this position. The package also includes a company car, private family health care, an excellent pension scheme, relocation where appropriate and other major company benefits.

Prospects for personal development and career progression are outstanding. For an initial confidential discussion, please call Kevin Warman today between 11am and 3pm on 0753-840279 or from tomorrow on 071-255 3200. Alternatively, please forward your detailed cv to him at Stafford Long & Partners Recruitment Limited, 12-14 Whitfield Street, London W1P 5RD. Please quote reference 5469.

Stafford Long & PARTNERS

B A R C L A Y S L I F E

I USED TO BE A LANDSCAPE GARDENER. NOW MY CAREER IS BLOOMING AT BARCLAYS LIFE.



My confidence really grew when I discovered I didn't need previous experience to work at Barclays Life.

All it takes is experience of life and the ability to communicate. The rest comes from the really comprehensive training provided by Barclays. And that includes learning all about pensions, life assurance and investment plans.

When I joined, I was attached to one of their branches. Now I have the backing of the Barclays name and access to a broad base of customers. Of course I have to develop my own contacts, too.

Compared with my last job everything's coming up roses. In fact, it's up to me what I earn. It's that kind of job.

If you can drive, have the use of a car and want to break new ground, why not call Barclays Life yourself on 0800 585388 and quote reference number TI4D272. They'll then arrange for you to find out more at one of their seminars.

(Text taken from typical comments from Barclays Life employees.)
Barclays Life is an equal opportunities employer.
All Barclays employees must comply with the high standards set in our ethical and caring Code of Practice.

BARCLAYS
YOU'RE BETTER OFF WORKING AT BARCLAYS LIFE

SALES AND SERVICE DIRECTOR
c £50,000+ Northern Based

Part of a major industrial services group, our client is a U.K. market leader within its sector, with a turnover of £48m. The Company has enjoyed remarkable success in terms of market penetration and profitability.

To build further on this success, the company now wish to appoint an experienced Sales & Service Director with the necessary drive, focus and direction to build a highly motivated and professional team of major account and field based sales/service staff operating throughout the U.K., in what is undoubtedly a highly competitive commercial environment.

As a service industry professional, you will be expected to impact significantly on the Company's business potential, not only through your hands on leadership of the sales function, but through the initiation and implementation of strategies designed to achieve first class levels of Customer Care and Service.

Aged 35 - 45, of graduate calibre, you should be able to demonstrate a solid record of achievement in a predominantly service based industry. You must be results orientated and possess the necessary interpersonal skills required to initiate change and establish your credibility within the industry.

The excellent package includes a high basic salary, bonus potential, share save scheme, prestige company car and a wide range of large company benefits.

Please write in confidence, enclosing a full resumé and explaining how you meet our requirements to:

STEPHENSON·HAYES
Search & Selection
Number Four, Talton Close, Solihull, West Midlands B90 4UX.

Touche Ross

IS MANAGER, EUROPE
International Retail Group

S. Hants **to £35K + bonus + car**

Operating through its European, North American and Australian Divisions, and with worldwide sales of over £300 million, this UK retail group has maintained a pattern of profitable growth and is a market leader in its specialist business area.

Reporting to the Finance Director, Europe, and working closely with the Group IT Director, you will be responsible for implementing Group IT strategy and standards in this, the largest, Division. Operations are based on IBM mid-range systems and the department numbers some 25 staff. Significant developments are planned in support of continued business expansion and diversification throughout Europe.

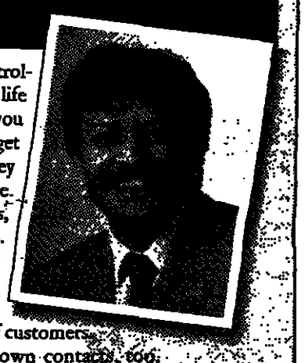
Probably under 40, and with a strong project management background, you will have excellent experience in applying structured methods in the development and implementation of advanced in-store and supply chain management systems. You must also have strong communication skills, a user perception and the ability to balance management vision with a practical team orientated approach. Long term prospects in this exciting, high profile environment are exceptional.

Please send a comprehensive résumé, including daytime telephone number, quoting reference 3229, to Neil Cameron, Touche Ross Executive Selection at the address below.

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
1st Floor, Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London EC4A 3TR. Tel: 071 936 3000.

B A R C L A Y S L I F E

I USED TO WORK AT THE AIRPORT. NOW I'M A HIGH FLYER AT BARCLAYS LIFE.



After years as an air traffic controller I never thought I'd land a job in life assurance. That's until I discovered you don't need previous experience to get a job at Barclays Life. The training they gave me was really comprehensive. They taught me all about pensions, life assurance and investment plans.

When I joined, I was attached to one of their branches. Now I have the backing of the Barclays name and access to a broad base of customers. Of course I have to develop my own contacts, too.

Compared with my last job, I'm a high flyer. In fact, it's up to me what I earn. It's that kind of job.

If you can drive, have the use of a car and want to spread your wings, why not call Barclays Life yourself on 0800 585388 and quote reference number TI4W272. They'll then arrange for you to find out more at one of their seminars.

(Text taken from typical comments from Barclays Life employees.)
Barclays Life is an equal opportunities employer.
All Barclays employees must comply with the high standards set in our ethical and caring Code of Practice.

BARCLAYS
YOU'RE BETTER OFF WORKING AT BARCLAYS LIFE

MBI, Inc.

MAJOR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Product Management, Mail Order
Chessington, Surrey

MBI, Inc is a large and fast-growing mail order company specialising in collectors' editions of plates, figurines, model cars, etc.

We currently have two vacancies for ambitious and exceptionally able product managers. Each is an exciting opportunity to make a real contribution to our continuing growth.

ASSOCIATE PRODUCT MANAGER
(c. £30,000, plus car & excellent benefits)

Working as a senior member of a Product Group, you will be expected to be a leader. You will maximise the profitability of assigned products through excellent purchasing and disciplined and innovative marketing. You will also develop new products to build our business.

Do not apply unless you have a good degree and a record of outstanding achievement in your career to date.

ASSISTANT PRODUCT MANAGER
(c. £20,000, plus excellent benefits)

You are a young, highly accomplished, energetic and career-minded achiever who wants to work in an entrepreneurial and disciplined company.

Purchasing will be your key task, but you will also gain valuable experience in product development and marketing. Career prospects for the right person are excellent.

You need to have a good degree, be a clear communicator, numerate and have a good head for business. You already have at least a year's successful business experience.

In both positions, success will fast bring extra responsibilities and generous rewards.

Linda Forsyth, MBI, Inc,
Jubilee House, Davis Road, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 1TT

Ahead of The World - the very best in I.T. sales

A NEW EUROLINK MARKETING INITIATIVE developed in association with the DTI has been successfully implemented and is now highly productive.

To further develop this new and highly successful initiative, The Eurolink Group plc. is expanding its existing team with the introduction of an autonomous and high profile sales force to exploit these newly identified opportunities

The successful candidates will already be prolific and enthusiastic sales people, operating at the highest levels in I.T. consultancy sales to related vendor or service sector industries. In addition to the determination and ambition which has already made you a consistent top three performer in your company, you will be no stranger to opening doors and building relationships at both senior management and Director level.

The Eurolink Group plc has offices across the U.K., as well as in Europe, The U.S. and Australia, and the opportunities for you to forge the management team of the nineties, feeding from our Global Support Network, are as far reaching as the network itself. Base salaries are £20 - 30K **with current O.T.E. figures in the region of £50 - 60K.** Our elite team is currently earning in excess of £100K.

Be the driving force behind new centres of excellence, write, 'phone or fax your C.V. to Mrs. Cynthia Payne, at the address below.

EUROLINK – GROUP PLC –

BLENHEIM HOUSE, 56 OLD STEINE, BRIGHTON, BN1 1NH. Tel: (0273) 202316 Fax: (0273) 722344

B A R C L A Y S L I F E

I USED TO WORK IN CONFECTIONERY. NOW I MAKE A MINT AT BARCLAYS LIFE.

I always fancied myself in a selling job, even though the only experience I had was with lollipops and lemon sherbets.

Barclays Life didn't mind. The training they gave me was really comprehensive. They taught me all about pensions, life assurance and investment plans.

When I joined, I was attached to one of their branches. Now I have the backing of the Barclays name and access to a broad base of customers. Of course I have to develop my own contacts, too. Compared with my last job I earn a mint. In fact, it's up to me what I earn. It's that kind of job.

If you can drive, have the use of a car and want to try a different kind of selling, why not call Barclays Life yourself on 0800 585388 and quote reference number TI4O272. They'll then arrange for you to find out more at one of their seminars.

(Text taken from typical comments from Barclays Life employees.)
Barclays Life is an equal opportunities employer.
All Barclays employees must comply with the high standards set in our ethical and caring Code of Practice.

BARCLAYS
YOU'RE BETTER OFF WORKING AT BARCLAYS LIFE

FUND RAISING DIRECTOR

National Charity **up to £50k + Car**

Our client is a large and well known health care charity seeking to dramatically enlarge their ability to respond to ever increasing demands and to break new ground.

The Fund Raising Director will play a key role by leading the charity's fund raising and marketing activities. Main responsibilities will be maximising the impact of the substantial advertising/promotion budget and motivating managers, staff and several thousand enthusiastic volunteers to meet the current increase in needs and facilitate innovation. This could form a challenging and worthwhile second (or third) career opportunity.

Candidates are sought from directors or senior managers in their late 40's to mid 50's with a successful career in sales and marketing in a business providing goods or services to industry or directly to the general public. Achievement in imaginative marketing and the motivation and control of a sales force are key attributes. A wide range of top contacts is important and knowledge and involvement in charities would be an advantage.

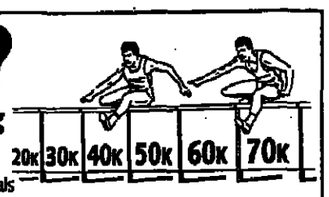
The remuneration package includes excellent benefits together with relocation assistance to the London area if necessary.

Applicants should write, in confidence, giving full personal and career details, quoting reference 990/ST, to:

ST. JAMES'S MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT
33 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1HU
(071-493 1788)

The Recruitment Division of John Lloyd & Partners Limited, Management Consultants

Wrong job - Redundant ?
Neither means being out of the running



We are a team of career professionals *who care about your future, whether* you are employed or not. Finding the right job is all about confidence, aptitude and contacts. Our expertise is comprehensive and individually tailored to meet your needs, goals and the right position - usually within the unadvertised market.

Call Wilson McKenzie to arrange an initial meeting.
Sunday 0831 531721 - Office Hours 071 636 3439

McKenzie Waterman
McKenzie Waterman & Co,
St. Alphage House, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5DA

DIRECTORS/MANAGERS

£70K+ £60K+ £50K+ £40K+ £30K+ £20K+

UNEMPLOYED: EX PAT: CAREER RUT: RECESSION HIT

You need a new position:-.

With hundreds of applicants applying for each advertised position, how can an individual compete in the marketplace?

Fletcher Hunt are not an agency, but a specialist team established to help individuals seeking fast career change to find the right position quickly and professionally, normally within the unadvertised market. Consultancy is sometimes available to our unemployed clients.

Phone Richard Holman on 071-436 8886

Fletcher Hunt plc.
CAREER CONSULTANTS
59 Devonshire Street, London W1N 1LT

London	071-436 8886	Rugby	0788-546887	Southampton	0703-787338
North West	0942-825292	Bolton	205 800	Scotland	0738-441327
Norwich	0603-620054	Newcastle	091-226 1010	Hong Kong	
Yorkshire	0422-885553	Bristol	0272-308824		

"...TIME AND TIDE WAIT FOR *NO-ONE...*"

If you feel your potential is being submerged, now could be the right time to set course for new horizons with Transpac.

We are one of the fastest growing UK companies in the provision of X25 data networking, outsourcing, facilities management and value added network services. Backed by Groupe France Télécom, Transpac are operators of the world's largest X25 public data network. Our success is based on the high quality and range of services that we can provide. We are now looking to further our UK expansion by recruiting additional experienced executives. All appointments require either proven skills in the VAN service industry or success in working with blue chip customers in allied disciplines.

MARKETING MANAGER To £45000

Reporting to the Director of Sales and Marketing, you will be involved in formulating and implementing our corporate communications strategy, orchestrating internal and external marketing resources and managing the introduction and evolution of new products and services.

ACCOUNT MANAGERS To £45000

To take total responsibility for the growth of revenue from key accounts as well as targetting new business opportunities within those and other accounts in that business sector. You should have a proven history of success and an ability to deal at the highest levels within your customer base.

SALES EXECUTIVES To £35000

Already an over-achiever in your present company, you will be expected to develop new contracts within blue chip companies. Determination combined with technical expertise is essential, as well as the ability to work as part of a team.

PROJECT MANAGERS To £35000

Possessing significant experience in implementing projects for major accounts on time and within budget, you will work closely with the sales team to secure new accounts. You must show both extensive technical expertise, team leadership and customer relations skills.

SALES SUPPORT EXECUTIVES To £25000

Assisting the sales team, your contribution will be invaluable in presenting our solutions to prospects and customers and preparing technical proposals and tenders. You will work closely with our operations, research and development departments.

Transpac is committed to providing outstanding career opportunities with rewards reflecting the intellectually challenging nature of these positions.

Please send full personal and career details, including salary history and daytime telephone number in confidence to Manager, Human Resources.

Orion House,
5 Upper St. Martins Lane, London WC2H 9EA
Tel: 071-379 4747
Fax: 071-379 1404

TRANSPAC

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cognito

SALES PROFESSIONALS

A Dynamic New Market for Achievers

c.£30K OTE · LONDON / NORTHERN ENGLAND

Cognito operates a nationwide communications network providing a comprehensive range of mobile data communication services across the UK.

Our first product, Emissary, offers a revolutionary personal communications solution enabling fast and reliable two way messaging. Initial demand has necessitated the expansion of our sales force in the key regions of London and the North of England.

Your primary goal will be to establish and develop a business base utilising new and existing prospects generated by our internal sales team. You will promote market awareness through presentations, group seminars and evaluation programmes, using presales support specialists where necessary.

To succeed, you will have at least two years' end-user IT sales experience, preferably gained in mobile or data communications. Most importantly, you will need a combination of strong verbal, presentation and negotiating skills, together with commitment and a will to succeed.

Cognito is a fast growing company offering tremendous career opportunities in this exciting area of communications. The rewards are excellent, both in terms of overall package and the associated benefits. There are no restrictions on earnings and all sales personnel are encouraged to over perform, bringing into play highly motivating 'accelerators'.

For further information send or fax your CV to our advising consultants at Goodman Graham & Associates, 8 Beaumont Gate, Shenley Hill, Radlett, Herts WD7 7AR quoting reference number 2601. Telephone: 0923 855515. Fax: 0923 854791.

A Dowty Information Technology Division company DOWTY

OPTICAL DISK TECHNOLOGY

Director of Sales

SOUTHERN ENGLAND **c.£65K OTE + CAR + BENEFITS**

It takes a special individual to achieve that fine balance between the demands of closing sales and providing real customer satisfaction. If you can also keep your team motivated and performing well, you deserve a company that appreciates your talents.

That's why you should consider joining our client, a major international player in the field of optical disk technology.

Here you will be identifying market opportunities as well as defining policy and strategy to achieve the optimum sales performance in the UK. You'll set the highest standards of personnel management and care, leading by example to continue the dramatic increase in revenue that they have experienced to date.

A minimum 10 years' successful management of direct and indirect sales operations is required, ideally with some start-up experience.

In addition, you should demonstrate an impressive track record of identifying opportunities and closing sales of major document management or related industry systems. This will cover all sizes and types of companies, and should prove your ability to present and negotiate at the highest level.

This is definitely a 'hands-on' position for someone who motivates and inspires others, so that all realise their full potential.

Sound technical knowledge is essential – which ideally means an engineering-based degree, but at least a working knowledge of Document Management, UNIX environment and associated technologies – backed with first-rate Sales and Marketing training.

The substantial rewards include an attractive base salary with excellent earnings potential, company car, private health care and life assurance.

Please contact **Nick John** or **Parm Flora** on 0344 860919. Or send your CV, quoting reference ST0454 and a daytime telephone number in the strictest confidence, to the TSI Group, Columbia Centre, Market Street, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1PA. Facsimile: 0344 860581.

TSI Group QUALITY IN SERVICE

A Strategy For Growth

The phenomenal success of Dell Computer Corporation has seen us take the lion's share of the industry's awards for customer satisfaction, quality, reliability, and performance over the past 3 years.

This has been achieved by taking direct responsibility for every aspect of our business - from R&D and manufacture through to service and support. But what of the future - ours and yours? With your help, we will build on our success, with a strategy for growth that will establish Dell as the third major player in the UK PC marketplace by the end of this year.

SALES MANAGER - PUBLIC SECTOR

Our growth as a supplier to the Public Sector has been outstanding. Having won major contracts with Central Government, Local Authorities, Health Authorities and Educational Institutions, this sector now accounts for some 30% of our UK turnover.

The importance of your role as Manager of our large Public Sector Sales team cannot be overstated. You will be expected to develop and implement a strategic business plan, with full profit and loss responsibility, which maximises both business opportunities and customer satisfaction.

Motivating and developing your line managers to achieve team targets and to provide a quality service at all times, you will take ultimate responsibility for all aspects of Account Management. You will, of course, be well supported by our Marketing Programmes, Bids and Tenders, and Advanced Systems departments.

Make no mistake, we require a level of performance which will test all your sales, team building and business management ability. With a background in IT sales management - preferably with Public Sector involvement - those skills will already be highly developed.

Combine them with a creative, analytical and highly motivated approach and we will reward you with a substantial package and career opportunities without equal.

SALES MANAGER - MASS MERCHANDISING

As in the US, the mass merchandising of PCs through Superstores is developing at pace in the UK. In line with our business philosophy of complete customer satisfaction, we continue to respond to their needs and have already established fruitful relationships with mass merchandising retailers.

If your background in IT sales has been through traditional channels, then this role offers a unique challenge. You will have complete freedom to work alongside our retail partners to ensure our mutual success; creating and implementing promotions, managing product sales throughout their lifecycle, and ensuring stock requirements operate smoothly. Together with our Business Development team, you will constantly be exploiting opportunities for expansion.

A knowledge of promotions and merchandising will help you succeed in an area vitally important to our future growth. You will be rewarded accordingly with an attractive package and the opportunity to develop a unique breadth of experience.

Benefits for both positions include a quality car, pension scheme, free BUPA and a superb working environment with a fully equipped gym. So why hesitate? Call our Advising Consultant, Kevin McDonnell, on (0344) 874444 today, Sunday, between 10.30am and 2.30pm or weekdays within office hours. Or write to him with your CV at PMA Recruitment Consultants, Cowarth Park House, Cowarth Park, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7SE. Fax: (0344) 872906.

DELL COMPUTER CORPORATION

Price Waterhouse

EXECUTIVE SELECTION

Director of IT Consulting

Price Waterhouse Meyernel - Johannesburg

Price Waterhouse Meyernel Management Consultants provide a full range of management and business consulting services nationally in South Africa through the firm's main offices in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town. They now wish to recruit a Director of Information Technology Consulting who will be responsible for continuing to grow the IT practice in line with a challenging overall business strategy.

The successful candidate, who will become a partner in the Southern Africa firm, will probably be aged about 40, with a considerable proven track record in leading a team of professionals to deliver value for money client service principally in the areas of IT-related business advice and major software packages. All our territorial consulting practices adopt world-wide standards and methodologies for the delivery of IT consulting assignments and technical back-up is provided through our major practices in Europe and the US.

The appointment will undoubtedly represent a strong personal challenge to the individual and decisiveness, sound business judgement, technical competence and integrity are key personal characteristics required. Remuneration as a profit sharing partner will be highly competitive and tailored to the individual.

Interested candidates are invited to apply in writing enclosing full career details and quoting reference A/1233 to:
Alannah Hunt,
Executive Selection Division
Price Waterhouse
Management Consultants
Milton Gate
1 Moor Lane
London
EC2Y 9PB
England

Human Resources & Development Manager

A high profile challenge with a blue-chip multinational

c.£40k package + car.

Seagram Europe & Africa is an international marketer of world famous brands including Chivas Regal and The Glenlivet Scotch Whiskies, Mumm and Perrier-Jouet Champagnes, Martell Cognac, Janneau Armagnac and Sandeman Ports and Sherries.

At our prestigious office in Central London, we seek a highly capable Human Resources generalist to provide support to senior executives within the UK and our overseas affiliates. You will also provide comprehensive Human Resources support to the Vice President-Human Resources in developing strategies for 3000 staff in 12 overseas affiliate companies.

The challenge embraces management development, recruitment, succession planning, compensation and benefits, expatriate policy, advising on the development of our Human Resources computer system and providing consultancy throughout Europe.

Our need is for a pro-active professional who is IPM qualified, has a degree and around 10 years' "blue-chip" experience. A background in a marketing-led, multinational fmcg company would be ideal. Most importantly, you must have experience of implementing best practice and innovative ideas in an international environment. The confidence and self-assurance to work productively with senior executives will be essential. A second European language would be an advantage.

This high-profile role, which involves European travel, commands a package around £40,000 including bonus. Comprehensive benefits will include an executive quality car.

In the first instance, please post or fax your c.v., quoting reference 5472, to our consultant Kevin Warman at Stafford Long & Partners Recruitment Limited, 12-14 Whitfield Street, London W1P 5RD. Tel: 071-255 3200. Fax: 071-436 9306.

SEAGRAM

071-481 4481 **EXECUTIVE OPPORTUNITIES** FAX 071-782 7826

CLYDE PETROLEUM plc
COMMERCIAL ADVISER

Clyde Petroleum plc is a leading British independent oil and gas exploration company. The company's diverse interests, including Clyde operated licences, extend from the UK and Europe to the Middle and Far East. Head Office is at Coddington in Herefordshire.

Continuing growth has required an internal reorganisation into regional business units which have across-the-board responsibility for their own activities. *We now wish to appoint a Commercial Adviser for the UK Region.*

The successful applicant, who will be based at Coddington and report to the Regional Managing Director, will be responsible for:

- Commercial evaluation for exploration, farm-in/farm-out and licensing activity, and the acquisition and disposal of assets.
- Commercial support for the management of Clyde's producing assets.
- Commercial evaluation of development options, transportation systems and incremental investment proposals.
- Regional reviews of competitors, business trends and industry activity.

The importance, diversity and scale of responsibilities require a highly motivated individual, with excellent presentational skills and the ability to work both in a team and independently to demanding dead-lines. In addition to possessing appropriate professional qualifications, the ideal candidate will have worked for at least 7 years within the oil industry, including posts directly relevant to that now on offer.

Clyde offers an attractive remuneration package including a competitive salary, a fully-expensed company car, share option and pension schemes and medical benefits. Reasonable relocation expenses will be paid.

Please send a full CV to:

Lynne Wilson
Clyde Petroleum plc
Coddington Court, Coddington, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 1JL

Results oriented and ambitious No. 2 looking to advance
A 'hands-on' challenge in a fast changing environment

HUMAN RESOURCES EXECUTIVE
Salary £35,000 neg. plus car—London

A major international group is searching for an outstanding individual with the ability to bring proven broad-based professional skills to an already established HR function.

The successful applicant will be perceptive, analytical and able to produce action-oriented solutions. He or she will also possess significant inter-personal communications skills at all levels.

We are looking for a record of success where individual development and performance form the basis of the HR function and company philosophy.

This senior position is within an existing and expanding HR team. Ideally, the successful applicant will be in his or her mid to late 30's and will most likely be a graduate in the humanities with a formal IPM qualification.

The package includes family medical cover, generous pension scheme and other company-subsidised benefits.

Please write in the first instance to Anne Lee, Assignment Administrator at:

E.P.I. SELECT
163 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, London SW3 1HW. Fax: 071-581 8933

Senior Transport Planning Executive
Commensurate salary and benefits

The overall transport programme for London Docklands is being formulated in the light of the area's emerging significance in the regional and national context taking in the East Thames Corridor and Channel Tunnel link planning issues.

The integrated current programme (over £3 billion) of major road and rail infrastructure projects includes A13 improvements, new river crossing, DLR East and South extensions and the Jubilee line extension via Canada Water and Canary Wharf.

The Corporation proposes a senior appointment to the Transport Planning team to take responsibility for LDDC multi-disciplinary input to the Jubilee Line project, to co-ordinate planning and engineering aspects of major development projects relating to new bus, rail and road infrastructure schemes and integrate further development of DLR with the LDDC's regeneration activities.

Candidates should offer 15/20 years background in transport planning or engineering with significant project management experience, and be able to demonstrate strong leadership qualities for a high profile position offering a unique opportunity to influence transport development of regional and national importance.

Terms of appointment and contractual arrangements will be flexible to match individual circumstances. Individual freelance applications considered. Please forward a full CV, giving an indication of salary expectation, quoting **Ref: ST/026** to **Gill Rodman, Personnel, London Docklands Development Corporation, Thames Quay, 191 Marsh Wall, London E14 9TJ.**

We intend to review applications on **Monday, 16th March 1992.**

London Docklands
An Equal Opportunities Employer.

Port of Felixstowe

High Calibre Human Resources Professional

The Port of Felixstowe wishes to appoint a Head of Personnel, responsible for all aspects of the personnel and industrial relations management of a total employment force in excess of 1,800 people.

The successful candidate will be professionally qualified or have an appropriate academic education to degree level. A career background, not necessarily in the ports industry, will have ideally included responsibility and accountability for the human resource management of hourly paid operatives, engineering tradesmen and staff and management grades.

He/She will be able to demonstrate a high standard of competence in all the essential professional disciplines reasonably expected of the position, including a sound knowledge of employment legislation and performance appraisal techniques, plus negotiating skills consistent with the demands of industrial collective bargaining.

This is a senior management appointment, accountable to the executive directors, through the General Manager, and the successful candidate will be expected to bring to the position an appropriate business aptitude, consistent with the commercial objectives of the Port of Felixstowe.

Salary and benefits will be commensurate with the status and responsibilities of the position.

Applications in the first instance to:-

Nicholas Finney OBE FCIT
Managing Director
The Waterfront Partnership
132 Buckingham Palace Road
LONDON SW1W 9SA

United Kingdom Port Operations Of Hutchison Whampoa Limited

North Sea Gas Sales and Transportation

As a part of the international Amoco Corporation, *Amoco (UK) Exploration Company* is one of the most active UK Continental Shelf explorers and producers, with major gas holdings in the UKCS. Negotiations for the sale of gas produced by Amoco, together with the negotiations on transportation agreements, play a critical role in *Amoco (UK) Exploration Company's* overall success. Due to our expanding opportunities, we require a

Gas Sales Negotiator

to support our gas sales and transportation activity. The successful candidate for this position will:

- have a minimum of 3 years commercial experience, obtained ideally within the oil and gas industry
- be educated to degree level with a law, marketing, economics or engineering qualification

In addition, the ability to communicate at all levels within an organisation and the capability to assess and assimilate the contractual, legal, accounting and economic considerations associated with North Sea Gas contracts, are prerequisites for this position.

Salary and benefits will be commensurate with those of a major international oil company and will reflect the responsibility of the incumbent.

Please apply in writing, enclosing a full curriculum vitae by 11 March 1992 to:
The Human Resources Department
Amoco (UK) Exploration Company
MC605, Amoco House
West Gate, Ealing
London W5 1XL

AMOCO *a good place to work*

MARKETING MANAGER

■ This is a key management appointment within a £100m+ business. Our client is a well-respected manufacturer of products for the agricultural sector, with ambitious plans for growth and development. We are now seeking an experienced Marketing Manager to turn those plans into action.

■ The initial objective will be to develop the concept of product management. You will therefore manage programmes of market research, new product development, advertising and sales promotion. You will also take responsibility for PR, as well as contributing broadly to the commercial development of the company.

■ You will probably be in your late 30's or early 40's, a graduate and ideally an MBA. You must be able to demonstrate a successful track record in industrial or trade marketing, preferably with a 'commodity' product being sold through distributors. You must have first-hand knowledge of identifying customer requirements and developing added-value solutions. Most importantly, you must have the vision and commitment to make things happen.

■ The starting salary is expected to be in the range £35-40,000, plus a full range of benefits.

■ **Please send your CV, quoting current salary and reference 3688 to Ross Monro, Regency Court 62-66 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2EN (061 832 0033).**

North West

To £40,000

Car, Benefits

A founder member of INTERSEARCH Europe, N. America, Australia
BIRMINGHAM CHESTER GLASGOW LEEDS LONDON MANCHESTER

THEAKER MONRO NEWMAN
RECRUITMENT & PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

Business Development
IT : ISDN Applications at the desk

c.£50K Package — Windsor Based

Our client is a fast growing company, part of a global computer and communications group, and an industry leader in the development of ISDN applications.

The market for these applications is now taking off, with pilots established in key accounts and the ISDN service being introduced rapidly across Europe.

The opportunity is for a Regional Manager to join the small team and initially drive fast business growth through the principal UK distributor, a major European computer company.

We require proven team selling skills combined with a record of successful channel marketing of PC networking and applications products, to enable you to develop opinion leading accounts and obtain leverage from the motivation of a large sales force.

You will have at least 10 years' successful experience in the IT industry in these roles since graduating. You will have a wide business understanding, possibly supported by an MBA, to enable you to identify and promote high value areas of business benefit to end user management.

This is an outstanding opportunity for you to play a key role at the leading edge of this industry, as it exploits the new digital communication service for real business benefit delivered to the desk, and to grow your career with the company.

To apply, please telephone our Advising Consultant, Richard Hewetson between 11am and 4pm on Sunday 23rd February, or weekdays during office hours, on 071-323 3575. Alternatively, please send your CV to him at Moxon Dolphin Kerby Limited, 178-202 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6JJ quoting ref 6170.

MOXON·DOLPHIN·KERBY
EXECUTIVE SEARCH & SELECTION

Managing Director (Designate)
Coffee Distribution
MIDLANDS

Our client, an international food group, seeks a Managing Director (Designate) to develop and expand its recently acquired coffee franchising operation, which extends throughout England, Scotland and Wales.

Ideally aged between 30 and 45, you will have a strong marketing/sales background, preferably acquired within the catering trade or the FMCG sector, together with a successful track record in general management. You will also require a high degree of commercial maturity, decision making and communication skills.

It is anticipated that the successful applicant will join the Board within a relatively short period. Remuneration is likely to interest candidates currently earning in excess of £35,000, and the bonus/benefits package will be fully appropriate. The Company is currently based in Bournemouth, with plans to relocate to the Midlands in the near future.

If you believe you qualify for this exceptional opportunity, please write - in confidence - with full CV and stating current salary to Ian White, *quoting ref: ST 100 at MSL Group Ltd.*, 32 Aybrook Street, London W1M 3JL. These will be forwarded direct to our client. Please list separately any company to which your application should not be sent.

MSL International
CONSULTANTS IN SEARCH AND SELECTION

☎ 071-481 4481 **EXECUTIVE OPPORTUNITIES** FAX 071-782 7826

Director of Generation

Electricity Company

£60,000 + Bonus

An entrepreneurial business development role as Managing Director of the power generation subsidiary of a leading Regional Electricity Company.

THE COMPANY
- Major player in the competitive electricity supply business.
- Leading involvement in independent power generation projects. Substantial planned investment.
- Growing interest in renewable energy and combined heat and power schemes.

THE POSITION
- Responsible for the profitability of the power generation business. Report direct to Chief Executive.
- Search out new opportunities for growth and development, especially joint venture.
- Mastermind bidding and contracting for new projects. Build on established team.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Track record of business development in acquisitions and joint ventures.
- Good knowledge of the independent power generation market essential.
- Proven commercial ability
- Creative, innovative, a strong leader.

Please reply in writing, enclosing full cv.
Reference 1MK4257
Courthill House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AP

NBS SELECTION LTD
MANCHESTER • 0625 539953
LONDON • 071 493 6392 • SLOUGH • 0753 694844 • BIRMINGHAM • 021 233 4656
BRISTOL • 0272 291142 • GLASGOW • 041 204 4334 • ABERDEEN • 0224 638080

Sales Director

Hi-Tech Virtual Reality/Computer Products

£50,000 Package + Car/Share Options — East Midlands

A particularly challenging and exciting opportunity in a new, very fast growing manufacturer of electronic simulation machines using Virtual Reality Computer Systems. Private company with medium term flotation prospects.

THE COMPANY
- High profile world market leader with patented technology. 85% of production exported. Realistic projections for demand led expansion.
- Well capitalised and profitable. 1992 turnover: £5m.
- Young dynamic management team. Highly enthusiastic and committed to success.

THE POSITION
- Lead sales and new business activities. Focus on developing new markets in U.K., Europe and Pacific Rim.
- Negotiate new sales to existing distributors. Major input into new product development. Grow sales team.
- Contribute to marketing initiatives. Report to Managing Director.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Proven record of sales business development, ideally in computer based products. Graduate with very strong technical grasp. Age 30-40.
- Senior level negotiation skills. International experience. Knowledge of creative media markets useful.
- Energetic, charismatic and self motivated. Versatile entrepreneur with total dedication.

Please write enclosing full cv, Ref BL0854
NBS, Bennetts Court, 6 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, B2 5ST

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TSB

Compensation & Benefits Manager

to £45,000 + banking benefits — Birmingham

TSB, one of Britain's leading financial services groups, is moving the headquarters of Retail Banking and Insurance, its largest and most successful division, to Birmingham. It is a complex business employing 25,000 people throughout the U.K. This period of exciting change gives the opportunity for a top class compensation specialist to make a real impact at strategic level. Only the best will do.

THE POSITION
- Member of the senior team, reporting to Director of Employee Relations.
- Develop and implement compensation and benefits strategy.
- Review existing structures and implement new programmes across various operating entities.

QUALIFICATIONS
- 35-45 year old graduate HR professional with at least 8 years broad experience.
- Extensive specialist experience of compensation and benefits policies, practices and their implementation, preferably in a very large retail or financial services group or consultancy.
- Exceptional communication skills, presence and authority. A strategic thinker.

Please write, enclosing full cv, Ref BL0745
NBS, Bennetts Court, 6 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, B2 5ST

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Group Company Secretary

Large Multinational Plc

c.£50,000 + Benefits — London

Our client has successfully managed the transition from traditional business to dynamic, highly focused and successful international Group. A committed professional is now needed to apply state of the art techniques in streamlining the Group secretarial function.

THE COMPANY
- Large, British based, quoted plc.
- Manufacturing and service businesses throughout the world, focused on small number of profitable sectors.
- Lean, devolved corporate culture with emphasis on teamwork and lack of bureaucracy.

THE POSITION
- Full responsibility for Group company secretarial function including servicing the Board, statutory and Stock Exchange compliance, share register liaison.
- Immediate challenge to upgrade and modernise the secretarial systems.
- Key member of small Group management team. Report to main Board Director of Corporate Affairs.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Chartered Secretary. Substantial experience from quoted Plc with active acquisition and divestment programme and many subsidiaries.
- Ideally aged 35-40 with current knowledge of computerised secretarial and administrative systems.
- Hands-on, active team participant.

Please reply in writing, enclosing full cv,
Reference BL0740
54 Jermyn Street, London, SW1Y 6LX

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Customer Services Manager

c.£40,000 + Car — Flexible Location

High profile greenfield opportunity for customer services professional to establish operation within a new consumer business.

THE COMPANY
- Well focused, rapidly expanding, multi-million pound turnover group.
- Major market share and international presence in core markets.
- New business operation seeking dominant position in UK consumer marketplace. Secure backing.

THE POSITION
- Plan and build high quality consumer orientated Customer Services department.
- Following start-up, manage day-to-day provision of services. Liaise with suppliers, retailers and third parties.
- Develop systems, procedures and training. Manage budgets. Report to General Manager.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Management background in major consumer customer services function essential. Probably graduate, aged 30-45.
- Proven start-up skills, allied to planning, budgetary and man-management experience.
- Commercially astute, enthusiastic, flexible and visionary.

Please reply in writing, enclosing full cv,
Reference SL0851
7 Shaftesbury Court, Chalvey Park, Slough, SL1 2ER

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Sales Manager

Consumer Products

Attractive Salary + Benefits — **Eastern Europe & CIS (Russia)**

Fast growing and entrepreneurial UK company, part of international fragrance and cosmetics Group, seeks disciplined sales professional. Challenging role to sell mass market fragrances and cosmetics to Eastern Europe and CIS.

THE COMPANY
- Leading manufacturer of mass market fragrances and cosmetics. Excellent reputation for quality. Highly profitable.
- Well established export markets in USA and Middle East.
- Focusing on Eastern Europe for next phase of expansion.

THE POSITION
- Lead sales effort. Significant head office support.
- Identify routes to market. Negotiate substantial contracts and ensure business follow through.
- Report to Head of European Sales. Approximately 50-60% overseas travel.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Proven track record in selling consumer products into target markets.
- Russian speaker essential. Polish and German desirable.
- Creative in finding contacts. Disciplined, flexible, resourceful and persistent. Financially aware.

Please reply in writing, enclosing full cv, to Sue Gee
Reference BL0637
NBS, Bennetts Court, 6 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, B2 5ST.
Tel: 021 233 4656
Fax: 021 233 4332

NBS SELECTION LTD — SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT FOR EASTERN EUROPE

Marketing Director

Equities

c.£60,000 plus exceptional bonus — London

▪ Our client is a Financial Institution backed by well established institutional shareholders and quoted on the London Stock Exchange. It has high standing as an investment manager and private client bank. As part of a continuing policy to develop and extend its business, following a recent acquisition, our client will appoint a Marketing Director for their equities products.

▪ The Marketing Director will report directly to the Chairman and will be responsible for the retail sales of the equity based products. Sales of these to pension funds and similar institutions are already well established. The particular responsibilities are to analyse the potential market as a basis to structure a marketing plan, then lead and implement new sales. An integral element will be the reshaping of the products to match accurately the market opportunities that are identified. The potential market area is predominantly the UK and throughout Europe, with a wider international spread linked to the banking interests of our client.

▪ To be considered you should be determined, experienced and imaginative in the marketing of equities products in the retail sector, with a demonstrable record of effective sales. An enthusiasm for original ideas and an ability to convert these into commercially successful ventures is very relevant, as this matches the effective, demanding yet informal management style of our client.

▪ Please send career and personal details, specifically presented against this requirement and including current remuneration, quoting Ref. PD 196-1 to Peter Dell, Ernst & Young Corporate Resources, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.

ERNST & YOUNG

GENERAL MANAGER

A premier name in supply chain management

Hants/Surrey Borders — c. £38,000 + bonus & car

Our client is one of the major distribution operators in the UK with a reputation built on quality, innovation and customer service. Part of a major multi-national, it has generated impressive growth over recent times and has a presence in the UK and in continental Europe. There are realistic plans to generate further significant growth.

Based at the company's headquarters, this role will initially be involved in a variety of strategic and operational projects which are recognised as central to the company's continued success. Thereafter, opportunities will be available either to move into a line management position responsible for a profit accountable unit or to further a career in a functionally based role at the centre.

Probably a graduate aged 35-45, you will have experience gained within a similar third party distribution operation or in an own account FMCG background. You will be a proven man manager, with experience of controlling a substantial operation, for example a Regional Distribution Centre, and will have skills in business finance, IT literacy and experience in working with trade unions. You will be a motivator with well developed analytical skills and a desire to progress and improve. You will also be an innovator who can adapt and be flexible in a challenging, dynamic environment.

The company has an outstanding record of recognising talent and opportunities can be expected both within the client and its parent company.

Please reply in confidence, giving concise career, personal and salary details to Brendan Keelan, quoting Ref L827.

Egor Executive Selection
58 St. James's Street
London SW1A 1LD

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... for a Forward Thinking IT Services group

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Car & benefits

We are a broadly-based professional IT services organisation with major business activities in the areas of application systems development, project implementation, reverse engineering, technology migration, network design & integration and also consulting with customers at a strategic level to enable the full exploitation of IT.

Our business is generated both within the UK and internationally and we enjoy access to the technologies, resources, infrastructure and customer base of our parent company, itself a global IT supplier.

The task you will have is to build a quality sales organisation capable of penetrating our chosen markets and major accounts. By harnessing and focussing the existing sales resources and working with marketing and business development colleagues, you will be instrumental in taking the entire business forward to rapidly achieve ambitious plans.

You already stand proud of your peers as a most successful and accomplished Sales Manager within an IT services environment. Motivating and managing sales teams, consistently exceeding revenue targets, thinking clearly on strategic issues, creating and initiating plans and taking effective decisions, are clearly amongst your strengths. Of no less importance are finely honed commercial and interpersonal skills.

To gain entry to this rich career environment please submit your details to Cathy Tracey, quoting Ref: CT0794. If you prefer to have an initial chat, call her on Sunday between 12 noon and 6pm on (0628) 824436 or during work hours on 0734 771100.

CTA RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
Cathy Tracey & Associates Ltd.
Staverton House, 3-5 Easthampstead Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG11 2EH. Tel: 0734 771100. Fax: 0734 771223

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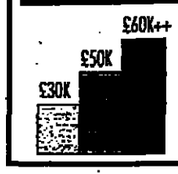

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FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

C: £35,000

A financial controller with experience in the design and implementation of computerised accounting, reporting and financial planning systems, is required by The Harbour Club, London's premier sports club, currently under construction near Chelsea Harbour.

The successful applicant will manage a small team and report directly to the chief executive. Proven ability in controlling a high cash flow business with a large payroll is essential.

Please write with CV to: Mr. A.J. Holmes, The Harbour Club, Blake Lodge, Bridge Lane, London, SW11 3AD

DYNAMIC, HIGH-PROFILE, COMMERCIAL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE & MANAGING DIRECTOR

Mid-Wales
to £40,000 + bonus
+ car + benefits

Innovation, creativity and real achievement - these are the hallmarks of the Powys Training and Enterprise Council Ltd. Established just two years ago and serving a widely dispersed population of 117,000, its principal objective is to enhance the County's economic prosperity by stimulating investment in enterprise, education and training.

Managing a young, energetic team of 18 dedicated professionals and working closely with the Chairman and Board of Directors, you will develop and implement the TEC's strategic objectives. Responsibilities will include identifying new funding potential and overseeing the management of the £5m budget. Major emphasis will be placed on promoting the TEC's aims to a very wide audience in government and business, both within Powys and beyond.

A proven communicator with strong marketing and negotiating skills, you have a keen understanding of commercial disciplines and a demonstrable record of achievement in a senior management role. Your personable, adaptable and diplomatically assertive nature will be complemented by a degree-level intellect. Of prime importance will be your ability to work within a participative, dynamic and non-hierarchical culture.

To apply, please send a full cv, in strict confidence to Peter Bedford, **Ref: 5634/PB/ST,**
PA Consulting Group, Park House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF1 3AF.

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COST MANAGEMENT IN MANUFACTURING

£25K – £30K + lease car
& benefits
Burnaston, Derbyshire

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CREATING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

With a 580-acre car manufacturing plant at Burnaston in Derbyshire, and a 115 acre engine assembly plant at Deeside in North Wales – both on target for planned completion this year – Toyota is gearing up for a new era of car production in Europe.

The environment will be different in many ways, not least the single status working structure. This is designed to promote genuine teamwork and a collective commitment to excellence.

This extraordinary venture will ultimately employ 3000 people and produce 200,000 cars a year.

This appointment offers a rare opportunity for an astute, lateral-thinking professional with a strong manufacturing background to play a central role in shaping the company's management systems.

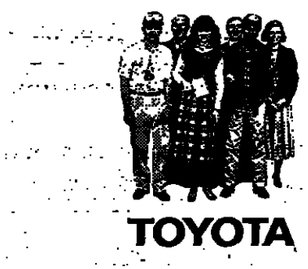
The broad brief will ask you to analyse and recommend improvements in several core areas, including productivity and efficiency; budgetary planning; cost management and reduction; profit and cost planning.

So, to make the desired impact, you must be prepared to challenge the conventional wisdom of current management accounting methods and have the conviction to put theory into practice. A self-starter with initiative, courage and determination you will be amongst talented, adaptable colleagues all addressing the task of 'creating the future together'.

Besides the professional and intellectual stimulus, we can also offer excellent rewards, with a package including a generous pension scheme, private health care and lease car.

To apply, please send your cv to our advising consultant Stephen Hockey, at Michael Page Finance, Imperial Building, Victoria Street, Nottingham NG1 2EX.

Toyota Motor Manufacturing (UK) Ltd is an equal opportunities employer.



TOYOTA

IT Development Director

"Major national networking and communications project"

UK/RUSSIA : c£60,000 and generous location allowance

Teknesis International Corporation, a major Anglo-Russian joint venture of financial, trading and industrial companies employs over 3000 people across some 40 subsidiaries in Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Germany, France, Switzerland, the UK etc. A major activity is importing communications and computing equipment to establish fully equipped business centres linked through both local and wide area networks to the head station in Ekaterinburg.

As IT Development Director you will work closely with Russian colleagues to commission, implement and develop what could potentially be the country's largest network. Based in the Group company's office in Park Lane, London you will oversee and coordinate the whole project and take personal responsibility for its delivery and subsequent development.

You will be a committed, energetic IT professional with the ability to devise and implement a strategic plan. A 'hands-on' manager with a strong technical background in NOVELL/LANs/WANs/PC Hardware and Software, you will be credible at senior level and able to motivate diverse groups in a multi-site environment. You will also have proven ability to handle both the technological and personal challenge in this role. Linguistic skills in Russian, French or German would be an advantage.

The rewards for success are excellent and include a high basic salary, performance related bonus and generous location allowance as a large proportion of time will be spent in Russia.

Please write with full salary and career details, quoting reference 2218 to: Sean Redmond, IT Practice, MSL Group Limited, 32 Aybrook Street, London W1M 3JL.

TEKNESIS®
International Corporation

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CONSULTANTS IN SEARCH AND SELECTION

Trading Director
— Food & Drink Retailing

Basic Salary c.£100,000 plus Directorial bonuses and fringe benefits

This new position as "Number 2" within one of the UK's major grocery organisations is in response to the changing market conditions and the desire to give greater direction and effectiveness to the Company's trading activities. Purchases of branded and own label products exceeds £2 billion per annum. Apart from specific responsibility for the day to day direction and control of the total buying function, the Trading Director will be a key member of the team who design and implement the Corporate strategy and the subsequent trading tactics.

The role demands considerable experience of operating at the highest level in a retail grocery organisation, with the ideal candidate having taken specific responsibility for structuring and organising a significant buying function. The corporate responsibilities require a high degree of strategic vision, financial literacy and commercial awareness. This is a high profile position where the divisionalised and diverse trading structure demands considerable energy and commitment, and a "hands on" management style. Age is however, less important than ability and experience, but the ideal candidate, because of their current status, must be immediately credible both internally and externally.

Please apply in strictest confidence to Cliff W Dealtry, Managing Director, James Allen & Associates Limited, either by telephoning for a brief discussion 0530 273733 during office hours or 0530 411741 on an evening or weekend. Alternatively, send a detailed CV marked strictly private and confidential, for the personal attention of Cliff W Dealtry, Managing Director, James Allen & Associates Limited, Stanleigh House, Donisthorpe, Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE12 7PS.

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EXECUTIVE SEARCH, SELECTION & DEVELOPMENT

HEAD OF MARKETING

A strategic role in the company of the nineties

Financial Services **Edinburgh**

Backed by one of the largest financial services organisations in Europe, this company is in a particularly strong position to develop the UK market for its own financial products.

Under the effective leadership of the Managing Director, the company has developed into a marketing-led organisation with a commitment to providing both cost-effective management and a total quality service to their clients. Significant in-roads have already been made into achieving their goal of becoming the premier Financial Services organisation. Following a revision of the company's distribution outlets, new business increased by over 50% in 1991 and prospects for 1992 and beyond look to be equally exciting.

The company now wishes to appoint a Head of Marketing to join their highly talented management team. Specifically, the appointee will develop a strong brand identity and produce a clearly defined marketing strategy. Flexible in your approach, you must also have the ability to devise effective and creative marketing initiatives for short and long term requirements.

With responsibility for the marketing function, you will have a major influence on the growth and development of this highly progressive company. To meet this challenge, you will be a classically trained marketer of the highest order, with your experience having been gained in an *fmcg or consumer-led company.* You must be able to demonstrate an outstanding record of achievements to date and a total commitment to succeeding in this role.

In addition to this being a major career opportunity, the work environment and location are particularly appealing, with the company having recently taken over modern offices in the heart of Edinburgh.

A comprehensive remuneration package is being offered, and the level of salary will not be a problem for securing the right individual. Applicants are invited to send in their curricula vitae, in the strictest confidence, to Ian Mukerjee at The Lloyd Group, indicating your current remuneration details. Please quote reference ST140. The closing date is Friday, 15th March 1992.

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Winchester	0962-877 737
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32 Savile Row London W1X 1AG
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We have a unique opportunity, within our Property Company, for an experienced Manager, who has the following skills:-

- The ability to canvass target markets and negotiate space.
- Strong Management and Organisational skills.
- The ability to personally implement Credit Control.
- Must be basically numerate. Able to work within budgets.

PLEASE REPLY IN WRITING TO BOX NO: 7501

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FAX 071-782 7826

OcTel™

Octel Communications are the world leader in voice processing technology. They offer an unrivalled opportunity for an experienced manager to help shape the future of this high growth industry in Europe.

With brand dominance in North American customer premise, cellular and residential voice messaging markets, Octel are now poised to accelerate their growth within Europe, having recently established their European H.Q. in Bracknell.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT DIRECTOR

VOICE PROCESSING

c £40k + car + benefits

Europe

Flexibility is the keyword of this fast-paced start-up. As Director of Customer Support you will govern both Field Service Operations and Sales Support Engineering and be faced with a challenging range of responsibilities from participating in high level customer presentations to supervising installations. You will also be expected to make a significant contribution to the Company's management team.

Recruiting your own team of high calibre individuals to further develop all activities, you will forge business relationships across Europe. With 10 years' experience working with telecommunications PABX and/or public network equipment, you will have had exposure to field service and business management with other European cultures. Experience in data processing and with cellular providers will be an advantage.

Reporting to the Managing Director, this is a chance to grow your own business centre and take full responsibility for technical issues.

If you can demonstrate technical knowledge coupled with business management acumen then please send your CV to John Kiss at Kramer Westfield, Recruitment Consultants, Pilgrim's Well, 437 London Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3HZ, or call him on 0276 686900. Fax: 0276 686899.

Kramer Westfield

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HITECH TURNKEY CONTRACTS

Southern England **to £35,000 + car**

This world leading electronics group is a market leader in the design, supply and implementation of a whole range of high capital value installations in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The organisation is project based around complex multi £million turnkey contracts.

The task is to pioneer a newly defined role as a key member of a divisional management team, providing a complete and rigorous financial control, business planning and contract administration service as well as managing a procurement team. The international nature of the business calls for specific expertise in Letters of Credit.

The ideal candidate (preferably CIMA) will have graduate level intellect, high numeracy and exemplary standards in planning, costing and budgeting (including the use of sophisticated PC packages), together with the ability to get to grips with the business and work creatively with its managers. Ten years professional experience, including success in an exacting controller's role in a first rate hi-tech engineering organisation trading internationally would provide an excellent background.

Personal characteristics must include wholehearted commitment to the goals of a forceful and versatile team, and good interpersonal and communicating skills. The rewards include an exceptional benefits package and genuine scope for career progression as this enlightened company expands in the UK and internationally.

Please send full career details to Tim Chenevix-Trench or call him on 071- 439 6288 (081-943 1791 evenings and weekend) for a confidential discussion.

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Executive Search Consultants,
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No – so you haven't seen anything even remotely suitable in the press.
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We've been helping executives with their careers for forty years, so we know about the vagaries of the economic climate. We also know that half the battle is knowledge – the other half is attitude. Like a guide, we have the knowledge, and we are experts in changing insecurity into confidence, pessimism into optimism and crisis into opportunity.

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CHUSID LANDER
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INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTING REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Based Middle East

Wimpey Engineering and Construction are responsible for International Contracting within the Wimpey Group. Two established operations currently exist in Dubai and Oman and we are now looking to further develop our business in the region through the appointment of the above.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the development of new business in addition to running new contracts.

Good contacts and a thorough knowledge of the customs and culture within the Middle East gained through several years senior Building and Civil Engineering management experience in the region are necessary. It is unlikely that individuals under the age of 40 will have the necessary depth of experience.

This is a unique opportunity to join a successful and expanding International organisation in a key role. The financial package offered is designed to attract and reward applicants of suitable calibre.

To apply, please send a full CV to: Chris Drummond, Training and Development Manager, Wimpey Group Services, 26-28 Hammersmith Grove, London W6 7EN.

WIMPEY
The International Construction Group

THE TRAINING AND BUSINESS FACTORY

The Training and Business Factory is growing rapidly in response to market needs. Unemployment, privatization of training, urban redevelopment, skills shortages and local commerce and industrial needs are all areas where we have a significant role to play.

Our regional network of Training Factories offer a fully integrated multi-training facility servicing local needs.

REGIONAL GENERAL MANAGERS,

LONDON **£25K + Bonus and Car**

We are developing a regional network of Training and Business Factories, building upon the success of our multi-training concept operated out of twelve existing locations.

We require Regional General Managers with exceptional ability who will have business development responsibilities for one of our new or existing Training and Business Factory areas.

You must be able to demonstrate not only a superb track record in the regional management of a multi-site operation, but also the qualities and ability to drive forward a rapidly expanding business.

You must be of a graduate calibre, with a minimum of five years management experience gained within a fast moving, quality orientated and results driven environment. First rate communication skills are essential.

Contact: Viv Saqeed

MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

£18/25K + Bonus and Car - London Based

The successful candidate will advise clients and deliver high profile training and consultancy, developing relationships and business at all times. Advanced knowledge or experience of all levels of management development within a variety of organisations is required. Excellent interpersonal skills, credibility and a belief in training only for results are essential. You will form part of a growing team of full-time Training Consultants.

Contact: Alain Wolffe

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE

£16/22K + Bonus and Car - London Based

The successful candidate will work alongside the Training Consultants to introduce a constant source of new clients and income. Excellent interpersonal skills, credibility and a sound understanding of training, commerce and managerial issues are essential. You will be an integral part of the consultants' team, but must have the initiative to pursue and generate new contacts.

Contact: Alain Wolffe

The Training and Business Factory offers excellent packages with exciting (and rapid) career development opportunities.

Write enclosing a CV detailing current package, aspirations and successes to the appropriate contact. The closing date for all applications is Monday, 2 March 1992.

The Training and Business Factory, 13/14 Ellerslie Square, 11 Lytham Road, London SW2 5DZ

The Training Business Factory

Tropical Horticulturalist

Kenya

A large and long-established agriculture company listed on both the London and Nairobi stock exchanges is seeking an experienced tropical horticulturalist to plan and implement a large scale development on its estates near Nairobi.

The aim is to produce fruit and vegetables for fresh export markets and for processing. A variety of crops are being considered and extensive trials are already being conducted.

Suitable candidates aged 35-plus are likely to have a degree in horticulture/agriculture and at least ten years practical experience, with five years in a senior management position.

This is a senior position reporting directly to the Company's chief executive. Salary and terms of service will be commensurate, and will include housing, car, air fares and assistance with school fees.

Please apply to The Managing Director, Linton Park Plc, Linton Park, Linton, Maidstone, Kent ME17 4AB UK.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Facing redundancy or seeking a career change? A critical time.

The Pathfinder Partnership can help you find the right personal direction. As career guidance specialists for directors and senior managers, we have the expertise to professionally market you with prominence given to the unadvertised job market.

Call us for an informal exploratory discussion without obligation. Government assisted loan scheme available to suitable applicants. Full details on request.

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Basic £32k - O.T.E. to £40k **High earnings potential** **Watford**

PC Enhancement Sales With The Multimedia Market Leader

VideoLogic Ltd., part of Avesco plc, is the worldwide leader in the development and supply of advanced hardware and software that adds multimedia capabilities to IBM and Apple PC's. Their products integrate T.V., video and digital sound seamlessly with still images, computer based animation, graphics and text. This represents the greatest potential growth area in computing since the advent of the PC.

This new role in Corporate Account Sales is an exciting opportunity for a proven sales professional to work with VARs as business partners in large corporate accounts, in both the UK and Europe, specifically in the areas of computer based training, POS, video editing and PC to PC video conferencing.

Aged 25-39, you should have an excellent sales record and be currently employed by or working with a VAR developing multimedia software or selling other non-packaged PC applications. Candidates selling computer based training and education packages would also be of equal interest.

To apply, please contact VideoLogic's advising consultant, Jeff Walton, on 061-833 0846 during business hours or today, Sunday, at home on 0925 754552 between 11.00 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. Alternatively, please fax your CV on 061-834 9120 or write to Jeff at Interface Executive Resources Limited, Scottish Mutual House, 35 Peter Street, Manchester M2 5GD quoting reference number 92183. All interviews will be held in the London area.

VideoLogic

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

TRAIN FOR THE 21st CENTURY

TRAIN FOR A CAREER IN COMPUTER MAINTENANCE

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Regardless of previous experience, if you are aged eighteen or over and pass our aptitude tests, Cerco's professional seven week full-time training programme provides the proven gateway to employment in the rapidly expanding computer maintenance industry.

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Or phone 0270-626300

CHIEF EXECUTIVE ROTHAMSTED INTERNATIONAL

Responsible for establishing and managing 'Rothamsted International' as a centre of excellence for research and postdoctoral training in subjects relevant to agricultural science in the U.K and overseas. A major fundraising campaign started in February 1992.

Applicants should have a distinguished scientific background, a wide experience of agriculture, natural resources and environmental science overseas. Knowledge of Government and non-governmental agencies, research and aid organisations an advantage. 5 year appointment, with extension or permanency possible.

SALARY: On UG5 scale £34,667 – £39,402 plus significant discretionary performance bonuses. Non-contributory superannuation. Assistance with relocation expenses may be considered.

Applications with names of three referees to the Administration Division, AFRC Institute of Arable Crops Research, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts AL5 2JQ, and quoting ref 930 by 20 March 1992.

Further details available. An equal opportunities employer.

Rothamsted Experimental Station

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We require a Manager, qualified to OND/HND to set up and manage a restaurant, opening May 1992 within a large Garden Centre complex. With emphasis on fresh and home grown produce imaginatively prepared and presented.

You will work a rota, 5 days out of 7 have a team of up to 9 staff, supported by the professional catering team within Premier Partnership.

Please apply in writing to - Sara Fuller
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We specialise solely in executive recruitment for the Purchasing and Materials Management sectors of industry and commerce throughout the UK and abroad. Our clients constantly need talented, committed people with skills in Purchasing, Inventory, Materials Management or Production Planning/Control at all levels of seniority.

If you are well-qualified and interested in career opportunities carefully matched to your requirements, contact us today for an application form. Our services are totally confidential and free to applicants.

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COMMERCIAL MANAGER

Due to expansion, Crowson Fabrics, international market leaders in Home Furnishings, has a vacancy for a Commercial Manager.

This is a senior position and only those with a sound commercial background, several years experience and a proven track record should apply. Dedication to success in a demanding environment is essential.

The successful candidate will ideally be aged 30-45 and a background in home furnishings/fashion would be an advantage.

Salary will not be an inhibiting factor as an attractive package will be offered to the right individual.

If you are ambitious, organised and possess excellent interpersonal skills and wish to be part of a young and dynamic design led company, please reply in writing with a full CV to:

Dept CM292
Crowson Fabrics Ltd
Bellbrook Park
UCKFIELD
East Sussex, TN22 1QZ

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J & J Training Services Limited
(a Licensed Computeach Training Centre)

St Ives House, Ferringdon Avenue, Harold Hill, Romford, Essex

Gallery owner seeks Personal/Research assistant.

Must speak fluent Russian and English with a university degree in a field related to Russian studies. The candidate must also have professional American knowledge/connections, and having worked (and preferably studied) in the U.S. must demonstrate a strong interest and knowledge of Russian art. If possible through art publications written by the candidate. Travel experience in Russia would add qualifications for the post.

Contact Roy Miles Gallery 071-495 4747.

PMG Interim Executives

Our clients are seeking top quality executives for short contracts varying from 2 weeks to 3 months. Work is nationwide, demanding and satisfying. Pay is in the range £300 to £500 per day. Prospects to higher rewards are good.

You are likely to be : imaginative, diplomatic, results oriented, a logical thinker, professionally qualified to postgraduate level.

You must be able to : listen and comprehend, empathise with all levels of staff, work under intense pressure away from home.

You will have : achieved board level or equivalent in a medium/large organisation, have expertise which crosses functional boundaries, a command of financial & other statistics.

Do not phone us. Post or fax a one page information CV to Judith at:

Profit Management Group Ltd. 0787 210379
PO Box 1802, Boxford, Colchester, CO6 5NW.

SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

O.T.E: *£50,000*

A sales and marketing manager with a proven track record in marketing prestige products or services is required by The Harbour Club, London's premier sports club, currently under construction near Chelsea Harbour.

Reporting to the chief executive, the successful candidate will be self motivated and able to demonstrate the ability to initiate, develop and co-ordinate a comprehensive sales and marketing campaign. The position demands an experienced marketeer with excellent presentation, communication and management skills.

Please write with CV to: A. J. Holmes, The Harbour Club, Blake Lodge, Bridge Lane, London, SW11 3AD

MANAGING DIRECTOR Designate

Extraction & Processing Industry
Yorkshire ***Salary Negotiable***

Continuing expansion and further development opportunities necessitate appointment of a Production Director (M.D. designate) to assume overall control of the multi-site production of this privately owned company.

Applications are invited from executives with senior management experience and appropriate background in chemical engineering/processing or opencast mining industries. Likely age range 40-50. Attractive executive remuneration package will include car, pension scheme and private health arrangements.

All cvs will be treated in strictest confidence. You are invited to list companies to whom you would not wish your details to be sent. CVs should be sent to: Ref 116/CM
c/o Arthur Andersen, 1 Surrey St, London WC2R 2PS

All box number replies should be addressed to:
Box No. .....
c/o THE TIMES
P.O. Box 484, Virginia St, London E1 9DD

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Keeping us up where we belong

Here at Scorpion our success in the highly competitive field of vehicle security systems has been based on a sophisticated blend of operational and technical innovation, customer understanding, competitor knowledge and creative marketing.

Scorpion are presently the brand leaders in the vehicle security sector, supplying nine major motor manufacturers. The company was founded six years ago.

Continued expansion and promotion has led to the requirement for four additional Sales professionals.

THE ROLE

As you can imagine, such a successful track record calls for a very high standard of marketing and business development activity.

The Regional Sales Manager will primarily be responsible for the posture of the products manufactured by the company within the enfranchised dealer networks of Scorpion's client base. This will encompass visiting motor dealer franchises in support of the vehicle manufacturer to promote increased penetration of the manufacturer's approved alarm systems and to raise standards of customer service.

You will be looking to take advantage of the opportunity of converting non-participating dealers into new accounts for the motor manufacturer whilst protecting existing dealers from in-roads by competitors.

In the present buoyant market, you will be looking to open as direct accounts motor dealerships where Scorpion is presently not supplying the motor distributor directly.

Reporting to the District Manager, the candidate will have the opportunity to see projects through to a successful completion and a high degree of autonomy would be provided.

THE CANDIDATE

A sales professional with a proven track record in developing a territory or consumer base, preferably with a strong background in motor related organisation. Business acumen, a flair for communication and well developed interpersonal skills will be essential with a creative and determined approach to account development and maintenance. It will be important to demonstrate the maturity and confidence necessary to deal with people at all levels and to represent the company effectively. Age 27 to 40 years; highly mobile.

Write in the first instance with C.V. to the **Company Secretary, Scorpion Vehicle Security Systems Limited, Siemens Road, Northbank Industrial Estate, Irlam, Manchester, M30 5BL.**

Finance & Administration Manager

International Law Firm

£30,000 + Benefits — London

Pre-eminent law firm with worldwide offices and global client base needs professional administrator for London office.

THE COMPANY
- One of the world's largest law firms with offices in the US, Europe, Asia and the Middle East.
- Established London office with stable professional team providing tax and corporate transactional advice to major corporations.
- First class location with state of the art communication and information systems.

THE POSITION
- Responsibility for London office financial management and planning, personnel, facilities and IT management. US liaison.
- Reporting to London office Senior Partner and worldwide Firm Director of Administration.
- Input to planning, implementation and assessment of firmwide activities and programme.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Graduate, with proven administrative experience. Financial management and IT literacy are key.
- Experience of facilities management, personnel and office equipment required. Knowledge of partnerships helpful.
- Hard working, resourceful and able to operate in exacting environment. Diplomacy and flexibility essential.

Please write, enclosing full cv, Ref L0960
54 Jermyn Street, London, SW1Y 6LX

SELECTION
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PERSONNEL · MANAGER

Baxter Healthcare Ltd. is the U.K. subsidiary of a U.S. multi-national with six decades of experience in providing quality products and services to hospitals and the medical profession.

Last year we dramatically re-organised the company to meet the new challenges presented by improved technologies, a world which increasingly acts and thinks globally, and the steady integration of the European community. We don't mind change, in fact we enjoy it; that's how we stay on the leading edge of developments.

This means that our people are very important; if you are on the leading edge you have to identify the best route across uncharted territory. We aim to recruit good people and develop them to the very top of their ability.

We want another Personnel Manager in the H R team to support our line managers, particularly in the sales and marketing businesses, in the successful management of their human resource.

The successful applicant will be graduate level, with good personnel experience and preferably experience in a non-personnel business activity. Past experience will be a spring-board for creative and innovative approaches to new challenges; we don't want to re-invent the wheel but invent the next successful techniques. Mental age will be between 30 and 40; chronological age could be (almost) anything.

If you think this sounds like your next job please send your C V to Mrs. June Dutton, Human Resource Director, Baxter Healthcare Ltd., Wallingford Road, Compton, Berkshire.
The compensation package will reflect your quality.

Baxter

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

BRISTOL, C £35,000 P.A.

Based in Bristol, **Building Management South & West** is the largest maintenance, design and property management business in the UK. The services which we provide include the following:

- PROPERTY AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE - Consultancy and Management.
- PLANNED MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF BUILDING SERVICES
- DESIGN - Architecture, Civil, Structural and M & E Engineering.
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT
- ESTATES MANAGEMENT

To achieve our planned programme of growth, we wish to appoint a Business Development Director who will be responsible for extending our client base and maximising business opportunities with existing clients.

The successful candidate will have a high level of interpersonal skills and a proven track record of business development in the construction industry and is likely to be qualified to degree level. A working knowledge of the industry in the South and South West of England would be an advantage.

The starting salary will be negotiable on the basis of experience. We offer a valuable benefits package including assistance with relocation (up to £5000) where necessary.

If you have the relevant experience and the drive and creativity necessary to develop your career as you develop our business then please send a full CV with details of your current salary to **MR. R.B. Field, PSA BUILDING MANAGEMENT SOUTH & WEST, BURGHILL ROAD, WESTBURY-ON-TRYM, BRISTOL, BS10 6NH,** quoting reference RBF/BDD/A1. Further information can be obtained from Mr. Field on 0272 764832.

Building Management South & West is a division of PSA Services and is scheduled for privatisation in 1993.

BUILDING MANAGEMENT SOUTH+WEST PSA

Building Management South & West is an equal opportunities employer.

Public and Industry Affairs Manager

A vital image in your hands

South East
c.£25,000+car

A highly respected multinational pharmaceutical company, our client has a valuable reputation to maintain. As Public and Industry Affairs Manager, you will make communications decisions that will have wide-ranging repercussions.

This newly created position will call on your expertise in developing and implementing internal and external communications strategies and systems, as well as test your ability to monitor successfully and co-ordinate appropriate responses. Issue management will be an important part of the role.

Establishing contacts with the media, government, and medical, business and local communities, you will need the personal and professional credibility to foster effective working relationships and ensure company products and activities enjoy favourable acceptance.

An accomplished public affairs/relations practitioner, you must have substantial experience preferably in a pharmaceutical, scientific or technical environment. Alternatively, pharmaceutical public affairs may be part of your wider role in which you now wish to specialise. Exceptional written and verbal communication skills must be backed by sound judgement, a confident personality and a creative approach.

Seize this opportunity to assume an influential role and send your cv to John Hawkings, Eames . Jones . Judge . Hawkings, 29 High Street, Welwyn, Herts AL6 9EE. Telephone: 0438 840984.

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PERSONNEL CONSULTANCY • SEARCH & SELECTION • MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY

Plant Engineer

A Challenge to use your skills

We are an international market leader in the development and manufacture of speciality chemicals and our Absorbants Division produces a wide range of products: activated bleaching earth, synthetic clays, cat litter, aluminium sulphate being amongst them. We are looking for an experienced and skilled engineer to manage mechanical maintenance activities in one of our manufacturing plants.

You will work with a large degree of your own initiative and utilise the skills acquired over several years in similar activities or roles

You will be a graduate, probably in mechanical engineering and will possibly have some experience in the chemical industry. More important will be your ability to organise, plan, control and complete to schedule vital maintenance work.

Salary will be negotiable on the bases of qualification and experience. Our need is to fill this vacancy quickly so you maybe between jobs. A candidate based in the North West of England would be an advantage.

If you feel you could make a postive contribution to our success then please send a comprehensive CV to David Evans, Personnel Manager, Laporte Absorbents, P O Box 2, Moorfield Road, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 0JU. Alternatively fax your details to us on 051 423 6176.

LAPORTE

LANCING

THE HEADSHIP

of Lancing College becomes vacant in September 1993 on the retirement of Mr Jim Woodhouse.

Lancing, the senior school of the Woodard Corporation, is an independent boarding school for boys aged 13-18 and Sixth Form girls in West Sussex.

In addition to educational responsibilities, the post requires excellent leadership and administrative skills. Applicants must be graduates and communicant members of the Church of England.

Further details from: Mr A. B. Holmes, Moores Rowland, PO Box 1034, Nile Street, Brighton BN1 1JB

Applications with cv and names of three referees by Monday, 23 March, please.

FORGET THE RECESSION

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Key individuals required to fill management vacancy in major group expanding in the U.K. and mainland Europe

New Year
New Era
New Challenge.

Call John Wyatt or Suzanne Delaney in confidence.
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A NEW CAREER ?

Our client, a well established assurance company operating in the niche executive and corporate market are seeking to strengthen their team of professional consultants throughout the U.K. and have immediate requirements in London, Surrey, Sussex, the South-West and North of England.

As a candidate you will be aged 25-50 with a high standard of education and a successful career to date. A high level of motivation and commitment is essential, previous sales experience is not a pre-requisite as full training will be provided.

The remuneration offered includes a basic salary of £9-11,000, company car, mortgage subsidy plus comprehensive benefits and an excellent bonus structure. For further details please contact either Anthony Washington or Pamela Singh in the first instance on 081-770 1100.

Westmead Consultancy
Westmead House
123 Westmead Road
Sutton
Surrey SM1 4JH

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GRADUATES A CAREER IN FASHION

£10,750 plus perks

Leading Fashion Company seeks bright *ambitious graduates with* numerate degrees plus some retail experience to train in merchandising. Duties include allocating, assessing and analysing sales figures to predict future trends. Excellent prospects. Age 21-23.

Ms Darr, 071-439 1188
Eagle Eye Rec. Cons.

SALES OPERATIONS MANAGER

C.£30K + CAR + BENEFITS — BERKSHIRE

As part of PepsiCo Foods International, the world's largest snack foods company, our Division believes that a successful business future will be realised by only the most progressive and forward-thinking organisations.
Hardly surprising, therefore, that we insist all key roles are filled by professionals who can not only bring with them experience and aptitude but also vision. As Sales Operations Manager you will report directly to the Company Managing Director and will have responsibility for supporting this sales organisation in its drive to efficiently and effectively utilise its resources.
This will involve you in a wide range of activities within our Division and within PFI as a whole; including the computerised tracking of sales performance, improving sales productivity and planning and controlling both function budgets and statutory accounts.
Essentially you must already have considerable commercial knowledge and accounting expertise combined with an understanding of what makes up a successful sales operation. More than this, however, you simply must be someone who can combine detail with the ability to drive through initiatives and goals to their successful conclusion.
If you have the depth of experience and talent necessary to succeed we will provide an excellent package that includes a competitive salary, company car and a wide range of benefits. Relocation assistance, where appropriate, is also available.

Please write with full CV to: Lynda Greenshields, PepsiCo Foods International, 1600 Arlington Business Park, Theale, Reading, Berks RG7 4SA.

PEPSICO FOODS INTERNATIONAL

OIL INDUSTRY ANALYST

Central London - Excellent Package

The Arthur Andersen Worldwide Organisation is one of the world's leading providers of professional services, employing over 60,000 people. Arthur Andersen's newly acquired Petroleum Services Group is a key part of our energy practice supplying clients with information on the upstream oil and gas industry in North West Europe, the Far East and Australia. This well-established team enjoys a reputation for providing services which are widely regarded as the industry benchmark.

As part of our expansion, we are seeking to recruit an experienced oil industry analyst. The person appointed will:

- Research and analyse field development data and related commercial issues
- Assist with the development and support of our financial evaluation models
- Market reports and computer models to our clients
- Work on consultancy projects

The role requires initiative, enthusiasm and drive combined with strong communication skills and the ability to work in a team environment with a minimum of supervision. The confidence to communicate effectively with oil company personnel at all levels is essential as the position will require extensive contact with the industry.

Ideally you will have a science or engineering degree and three to five years experience in the production or petroleum engineering department of a company active in the North Sea. Experience of working with Lotus 123 or a similar spreadsheet is essential and familiarity with economic modelling is highly desirable

Please write enclosing full Curriculum Vitae, indicating your current salary, in confidence to:

Carmel Mallon
Arthur Andersen
1 Surrey Street
London WC2R 2PS
Telephone 071 438 5814

ARTHUR ANDERSEN

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General Secretary

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge invites applications for the post of General Secretary. The Society is active in funding literature and communications programmes world-wide, also in publishing and in bookselling. It has a staff of 300 and a turnover in excess of £8 million.

The successful applicant will be a committed Christian, and an active and ecumenically minded member of a Church within the Anglican Communion. He or she will preferably have experience in one of the Society's areas of operation with a proven track record in the management of staff and resources.

The General Secretary will be able to look forward, and think creatively about the distinctive contribution of the Society at home and overseas, and as an effective communicator will welcome the opportunity to speak and write about its work and role.

As the chief executive, responsible with a team of colleagues for the full range of the Society's activities, the General Secretary's salary and conditions of service will be commensurate with the size of the task.

For full job description and application form, please write to: The Chairman of the Governing Body, SPCK, Holy Trinity Church, Marylebone Road, London NW1 4DU.

The Society is an equal opportunities employer

SPCK

PA

CHIEF TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER

The Police Authority for Northern Ireland seeks to fill a vacancy in its Support Services Division.

Duties will include the eventual responsibility for the provision and maintenance of all Communication (telephone and radio) and Information systems for both the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Police Authority. In the short term the postholder will be responsible only for the successful implementation of recent recommendations made by the Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency (CCTA) for the management and introduction of computerised information systems.

Applicants should have:-

1. a recognised qualification in the telecommunications field - Chartered Engineer status would be an advantage;
2. wide experience in the planning and provision of radio communication systems, preferably in the VHF and UHF fields;
3. experience in the planning, implementation and maintenance of telephone, data and information technology systems in general;
4. an up-to-date knowledge of mobile communication systems, preferably with experience of police systems.

Applicants should also possess a current driving licence and the use of a private car for official purposes.

Hours of duty will amount to a net 37 hours per week Monday to Friday.

Salary will be £26,622 rising to £41,120 by annual increment and performance points. An environmental allowance of £266 per annum will also be payable.

The Authority may decide to interview only those applicants who appear from the information available including nature, duration and extent of previous experience to be best qualified.

Further details and an application form are available from:-

Personnel Branch (Recruitment Section),
5th Floor, River House,
48 High Street, Belfast, BT1 2DR.
Telephone 0232 230111 extensions 20138 and 20232.

The application form, together with curriculum vitae giving details of relevant experience should be returned to the address shown by 5.00pm on Thursday 12th March, 1992.

POLICE AUTHORITY *for* NORTHERN IRELAND

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Dedicated quality of service is key to our success. In our people we look for genuine interest to personally sell and develop our business, self motivation, creative thinking and a will to succeed in a fast moving business.

We offer an ongoing comprehensive training programme, structured career development, plus an excellent earnings package (salary + bonus).

If you feel you possess the qualities to be part of our success

Call now

0734 599755 Ann Short (Thames Valley, South West)
0582 415711 Mike Green (Home Counties, London)
Alternatively send your CV to David Wells, HMS Personnel Services 104 Baker Street, W1M 2AR.
HMS is an equal opportunities employer

Baxter

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The Chamber of Shipping is the trade association for the UK shipping industry. It represents shipping company interests to Government, Parliament, international organisations and many others.

We seek a graduate to work in the Membership Services side of our Membership & Employment Services Division. The post provides a challenging opportunity for someone with a flair for analysing a variety of subjects and developing policy on issues affecting our members.

Principal responsibilities will, initially, involve liaison with government departments, including HM Customs & Excise, Ministry of Defence and Department of Transport; and acting as Secretary to our Liner and Ferry operator committees.

Applicants should have a good degree, possibly in law or economics, be self-motivated and possess good communication and presentational skills. An aptitude for examining issues and establishing priorities is essential, and some knowledge of computing would be an advantage. The post is likely to suit someone with one or two years previous experience in a trade association or commercial environment.

Salary from £14,000 according to age, experience and qualifications. Benefits include LVs, annual season ticket loan, private health insurance and a contributory pension scheme.

Further details and an application form, to be returned by 12 March 1992, can be obtained from:

Mr. J. Curnow, Personnel Manager, Chamber of Shipping, 30/32 St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 8ET. Telephone (071) 283 2922 (Ext. 228).

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PERSONAL FINANCIAL GUIDANCE

ENGINEERING APPOINTMENTS

MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING: CONSULTANT POSTS

The SERC Directorate 'Application of Computers to Manufacturing Engineering' (ACME) wishes to make four part-time consultancy appointments to provide technical advice in developing, managing and monitoring its directed research programme. The posts involve advising on the direction of future research, providing technical advice and comment, and forging new liaisons within the community. The subject areas to be covered by the four posts are:

- CAE . Conceptual design, detail design, representation of shape (geometric modelling), engineering analysis (mesh generation), process planning, design for economic manufacture
- INTEGRATION METHODOLOGIES . Integration methodologies, integration tools, databases and information management, system architectures, implementation methodologies, total resource management.
- ADVANCED PRODUCTION MACHINERY . Sensors and sensing, vision systems, assembly, materials handling and manipulation, inspection and error recovery, control and control architectures, system integration.
- PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT . Quality systems, human factors, supply chains, CAPM, factory simulation, total business systems, performance evaluation, best practice

Applicants should have not only the required technical expertise but also long-standing experience of both the academic and industrial sectors. Part-time release from an industrial or academic post will be considered, as will recently retired applicants. SERC will pay the consultants a daily fee which along with working hours and location will be open to negotiation. The contract would initially be for a one year period.

Applicants should send a CV and letter identifying which post they wish to be considered for and describing their suitability for it, to arrive no later than 27th March. Further information about the posts can be obtained from:

Gay Ford, ACME Directorate,
Science and Engineering Research Council,
Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon,
Wilts SN2 1ET Tel: 0793 411106

SERC

TREASURER

required to deal with family/business assets of a trading company based in Central London. Experience also needed in trusts & tax planning plus knowledge of trademarks & licensing agreements. Appointment initially envisaged as 2-3 days per week, making it ideal for a professional with a legal, accountancy or private client banking background. Salary negotiable.

Contact: Andrew Proctor, Law Recruitment, 9 Bank Plain, Norwich NR2 4SF. Tel: 0603 630283

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE

High profile and influential role within dynamic private company. To be trained by a Senior Manager with a long term view of replacing him! Suit potential high earner. Aged 25-35.

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In order to join us, you must be young, determined, highly articulate and able to work in London W1.

To arrange an early interview, please telephone Stephen Parry at Cornhill Publications on 071-240 1515

SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER

BERLIN/GERMANY
salary £neg.

Our client is setting up a manufacturing plant, 100 km East of Berlin and requires a Sales and Marketing Manager to be based in Germany.

- Degree in Mechanical or Chemical Engineering
- Sales and Marketing experience
- Fluent German
- Age 28-40
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Valid assignment of contract

Linden Gardens Trust Ltd v Lenesta Sludge Disposals Ltd and Others

St Martins Corporation Ltd and Another v Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons Ltd

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Staughton and Sir Michael Kerr

[Judgment February 13]

A term of a JCT contract that an *employer would not without the* contractors' consent assign the contract did not prohibit the employer from assigning the benefit of the contract to another party.

A cause of action for substantial damages for breach of a building contract that had vested in the employer and which the employer had assigned by deed, entitled the assignee to recover damages from the contractors for the losses incurred by the employer up to the date of the assignment.

However, an assignee of the benefit of such a contract could not recover against the contractors damages for loss as a result of a breach occurring after the date of the assignment. The original employer could in such circumstances himself recover substantial damages against the contractors.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments. Lord Justice Staughton dissenting in part, in allowing an appeal, in the first case, by the plaintiffs, Linden Gardens Trust Ltd, from decisions on preliminary issues by Judge John Loyd, QC, sitting as an official referee, in October 1990, *that resulted in the dismissal* of their claims against the second defendants, McLaughlin & Harvey plc, and the third defendants, Ashwell Construction Co Ltd.

In the second case, appeals by St Martins Corporation Ltd and St Martins Property Investments Ltd from a decision by Judge Bowsher, QC, sitting as an official referee, in January 1991 in favour of the defendants, Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons Ltd, that raised broadly similar issues were heard consecutively by the court: the appeal by St Martins Corporation was allowed and that by St Martins Property Investments Ltd dismissed.

St Martins Property Investments Ltd and the defendants in both cases were granted leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

In the first case, Mr Anthony Speaight, QC, for the plaintiffs; *the first defendants did not* appear and were not represented; Mr Justin Fenwick for the second defendants; Mr Ellis Meyer for the third defendants.

In the second case, Mr Humphrey Lloyd, QC, and Mr David Westcott for both plaintiffs; Mr Richard Fernyhough, QC and Mr Marcus Taverner for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON said that the appeals, heard consecutively, raised two important questions of law on broadly similar facts.

The issues were (i) whether a term in a contract that it could not be assigned without consent had the result that a purported assignee might not sue on the contract, if he had not obtained consent; (ii) whether the contracts had that result; (iii) whether an original contracting party, or his assignees, could recover substan*tial damages for breach of con*tract, when the original party's loss had subsequently been made good to him by somebody other than the defendants; and (iv) whether an assignee of the benefit of a contract could recover damages for loss which he had *suffered* as a result of a breach occurring after the assignment.

In both cases building works were carried out under a contract with somebody who had a proprietary interest in the building when the contract was made. The contractors were said to have failed to achieve proper performance.

The original employers transferred their interest in the building to others and also purported to assign the building contract. But it was said to have contained a term that the employers would not assign the contract without the consent of the contractors. Consent was never obtained.

An important difference between the two cases lay in who were the plaintiffs. In the first appeal only Linden Gardens, the assignees, sued. In the second case both Corporation, the assignors, and Investments, the assignees, *were parties as plaintiffs.* They were associated companies.

Assignment of contractual rights

Assignment consisted of the transfer from B to C of the benefit of one or more obligations that A owed to B. Decided cases bound the court to hold that a prohibition in a contract on the assignment of a chose in action arising under it was effective to prevent an assignee claiming either a debt due under the contract or damages for breach from the other party to the contract.

However in many types of *contract it was immaterial* whether a party performed his obligation personally or by somebody else. The obligations under such contracts might or might not be sub-contracted, otherwise known as vicarious performance.

Large building contracts commonly involved specialist subcontractors. Problems in such cases were, as in the instant cases, usually addressed by the contract itself.

Interpretation of the contracts

The relevant clause in the contracts provided that "the employer shall not without the written consent of the contractor assign this contract". At once a doubt arose as to what was meant.

Lawyers knew that one could not assign a contract as a whole, if by that was meant both the benefit and the burden, without the consent of the other party and the assignee. So what was the point of saying that consent of the *contractor would be required?*

If the intention was to prevent the employer assigning benefits under the contract without consent why not say so? Or could it have been the intention to prevent the employer sub-contracting his obligations under the contract *without consent?*

In *Nokes v Doncaster Amalgamated Collieries Ltd* ([1940] AC 1014, 1019) Viscount Simon, Lord Chancellor, having said that "assign" might not always be used in its correct legal sense, distinguished between assignment and vicarious performance.

In the instant cases "assign this contract" was not to be taken as including assignment, in its legal sense, of the benefit of the contract or any part of it. The clause operated to prohibit vicarious performance by the employer without consent and did not prohibit assignment by the employer of the benefit of the contract or any part of it.

Substantial damages for loss that had been made good

In the first case the original employer disposed of his proprietary rights in the building between 1985 and 1986 for its full market value, not knowing of the building defects. In 1986 the original employer assigned his contractual rights to Linden Gardens who thereafter themselves incurred expense on remedial work.

Thus the original employer *acquired a right to substantial* damages for breaches of contract and did not lose it when he disposed of his interest in the building. After the 1987 assignment Linden Gardens, as assignees, became entitled to enforce the original employer's claim. It was immaterial that it was Linden Gardens who had subsequently incurred the expense of the remedial work.

In the second case no breach of contract occurred and no cause of action arose before the date of the assignment. The expense of putting right later defective work was borne by the assignees, Investments.

Therefore, it was argued by the defendants, Corporation was not entitled to more than nominal damages and Investments, as assignees, could recover no more than Corporation was entitled to.

His Lordship, dissenting on the point from Lord Justice Nourse and Sir Michael Kerr, said that in his opinion Corporation, by transferring to Investments the contractual right to have the building properly constructed, thereby enabled Investments to *sue for breach of that obligation* and recover substantial damages.

SIR MICHAEL KERR said that he agreed that Linden Gardens' appeal in the first case be allowed.

In the second case one aspect of the facts was crucially different: at the time of the assignment no breach of contract had occurred and no cause of action against the defendants had vested in Corporation.

In those circumstances the effect of the contractual prohibition was that the assignment was *invalid and ineffective to transfer* anything. The right to have the contract performed could not be assigned without consent and no assignable claim for damages or other chose in action under the contract had vested in Corporation. Investments had not acquired any enforceable rights against the defendants and their appeal should be dismissed. It followed that Corporation remained the contracting party *vis-à-vis* the defendants. The amount of damages recoverable by Corporation was not restricted to nominal damages. Corporation was entitled to recover damages that took into account its liability to indemnify Investments for the amount which Investments had expended in remedying the damage caused by the defendants' breaches.

The defendants' arguments relying on the principles of *remoteness and causation* to counter that conclusion were to be rejected.

Lord Justice Nourse delivered a judgment concurring with Sir Michael Kerr.

Solicitors: In the first case: Jacques & Lewis; Masons; *Portner & Jaskel.*

In the second case: Stephenson Harwood; Glovers.

Interrogatories

Maxiplus Ltd v Lunn

Where a party on whom interrogatories without order had been served had failed to apply to the court for the variation or withdrawal of those interrogatories under Order 26, rule 3(2) of the Rules of the Supreme Court, then the court had power under rule 6(1) to make such order as it thought just, so that it was entitled if it thought fit to refuse the interrogatories under the latter rule.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Stuart-Smith) so held on February 19 when dismissing the appeal of the defendant, George Lunn, from the order of Judge Fricker at Kingston-upon-Hull County Court on March 3, 1991, that, *inter alia*, the action between the parties should proceed notwithstanding the failure of the respondent to comply with the order of a registrar on November 1, 1990, in relation to certain interrogatories some of which the registrar had refused.

Tax avoidance scheme lawful

Fitzwilliam (Countess) and Others v Inland Revenue Commissioners

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Staughton and Sir Christopher Slade

[Judgment February 19]

An elaborate scheme devised by solicitors and counsel to avoid liability to capital transfer tax following the death of Earl Fitzwilliam was effective and *achieved its purpose.*

The five successive steps taken to implement the scheme, evolving around the settled property provisions of Schedule 5 to the Finance Act 1975, were not pre-ordained and thus could not constitute a single composite *transaction so that the anti*-avoidance principles laid down by the House of Lords in *Ramsay (W. T.) Ltd v IRC* ([1982] AC 300) could not be applied to the scheme.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments dismissing an appeal by the Crown from the judgment of Mr Justice Vinelott (*The Times* November 22, 1989; [1990] STC 65) that had allowed appeals by the executors/trustees of Earl Fitzwilliam's estate from a decision of the special commissioners that had upheld notices of determination that tax was *chargeable as if amounts of £4* million from the estate had been appointed to Lady Fitzwilliam absolutely and £3.8 million to her daughter, Lady Hastings, absolutely.

Earl Fitzwilliam died in 1979. His estate, valued at some £12 million, was directed to be held on trust, the trustees having discretion to appoint among a class of beneficiaries that included the Earl's widow, Lady Fitzwilliam, then aged 81, and Lady Hastings.

On the trustees' instructions and with the assistance of counsel, the family solicitors in November 1979 embarked on certain transactions that sought to utilise (i) the surviving spouse exemption in Schedule 6 to the Finance Act 1975; (ii) the exemption for deeds of family arrangements within two years of death in section 47(1A) of the Finance Act 1975, as introduced by section 121 of *the Finance Act 1976; (iii) the* mutual transfer provisions in sections 86 and 87 of the Finance Act 1976; (iv) provisions for the termination of an interest in possession in paragraph 4 of Schedule 5 to the Finance Act 1975; and (v) the reverter to settlor provisions in section 22(2) and paragraphs 4(5) and 1(6) of Schedule 5. The scheme was fully implemented by February 1980.

The commissioners concluded that the transactions were the essential steps taken to implement the avoidance scheme that satisfied the *Ramsay* principle and that everything else that was done was subsidiary to those steps and did not break the sequence of the pre-ordained steps.

In addition they found that throughout the solicitors were acting on instruction from the trustees in implementing the scheme and that the solicitors' knowlege was to be attributed to their clients, Lady Fitzwilliam giving them carte blanche to do whatever was necessary and Lady Hastings, although taking independent legal advice, being attributed with knowlege of the scheme and the steps taken.

The Crown was refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Mr Robert Reid, QC, Mr Christopher McCall, QC and Mr Launcelot Henderson for the Crown; Mr Robert Walker, QC and Mr Mark Herbert for the taxpayers.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that the taxpayers argued that the individual transactions were not pre-ordained and did not make up a single composite transaction. Alternatively, they said, that even as a composite transaction they did not produce the fiscal results for which the *Crown contended.*

Regarding that alternative argument, Mr Justice Vinelott did not think that the Crown had been able to explain precisely how the transactions, if treated as a composite transaction, gave rise to a charge to the tax. His Lordship said that he agreed.

However, amended notices of determination submitted by the Crown at the invitation of the court had clarified both the essentials of its claims and its inability to sustain them.

The commissioners had decided the present case before the House of Lords decision in *Craven v White* ([1989] AC 398). There Lord Oliver of Aylmerton (at pp509-514) dealt with what was required in order that a series of transactions might be treated as a single composite transaction for the purposes of the *Ramsay* principle.

There had, he said, at the time the inserted step was entered into, to be no practical likelihood that the pre-planned events would not take place in the order ordained.

The essential question was whether it was pre-ordained that Lady Hastings would participate in the last two steps of the scheme. If not, none of the composite transactions for which the Crown contended could properly be treated as such.

It could not be said that the steps taken were "pre-ordained" in the sense that that concept was understood and applied in any of *the previous decisions*, or indeed in any other sense.

In the very breath in which Mr Walker had in January 1980 dictated the steps and the timetable, he had suggested that serious consideration be given to Lady Hastings being advised by another solicitor and possibly by separate counsel.

That suggestion was followed within a fortnight. Lady Hastings, an individual with an understanding and a will of her own, would thereafter receive advice from others, to whom all the details of the scheme would have to be disclosed.

The purpose of her receiving such advice was, and could only be to ensure that it was in her best interests to participate in the scheme. Had it not been in her best interests, she might have decided not to participate in the scheme as then proposed.

Thus there was a real possibility that the proposed scheme would not go through. The tests for pre-ordainment laid down in *Craven v White* were not satisfied. It could not at the time have been said that there was no "practical" or "real" likelihood that the scheme would not be completed.

His Lordship then went on to consider the taxpayers' alternative argument that even as a single composite transaction none of the steps produced the fiscal results for which the Crown contended.

He concluded that the provisions of the capital transfer tax legislation referred to by the Crown in its amended notices of determination could not have applied to any of the suggested composite transactions so as to raise the charges to tax for which the Crown contended.

Lord Justice Staughton and Sir Christopher Slade delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Currey & Co.

Delay after re-trial order fatal

Regina v Horne

Before Lord Justice Leggan, Mr Justice Hutchison and Mr Justice Laws

[Judgment February 7]

Where an order for re-trial was made by the Court of Appeal in respect of an accused and the prosecution could give no good reason for failing to re-arraign him within the time limit of two months set by section 8 of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968, as amended by section 43 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, the prosecution could not claim to have acted with due expedition.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an application by Eric Mark Horne for an order directing an entry of judgment and verdict of acquittal in relation to an order for re-trial made in respect of him on November 14, 1991, by the Court of Appeal.

Mr John Burton for the applicant; Miss Dianne Chan for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT, giving the judgment of the court, said that on November 14, 1991 the applicant's appeal against a conviction of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of a prohibition on the importation of a Class A controlled drug, namely cocaine *hydrochloride*, for which he was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment with a recommendation for deportation, was allowed and an order for a re-trial was made.

On November 21, the Registrar of Criminal Appeals sent a copy of the court's order to the lawyers for the defence and the prosecution. On November 27, the prosecution re-served the requisite witness statements.

On January 6, 1992, a date appointed for a hearing for pleas and directions, the proposed hearing date of January 27 was adjourned to February 10. On *January 13, the Registrar wrote to* Isleworth Crown Court to remind them of the two-month time limit for re-arraignment, which would expire on January 14.

On January 30, the principal legal officer acting on behalf of the solicitors to the Customs and Excise gave notice of the intention to apply for leave to re-arraign the applicant out of time.

Miss Chan submitted that the object of the section was to ensure that the accused was tried quickly and that the prosecution had been successful in that endeavour since the trial date was set for February 10, 1992.

In the case of *R v Coleman*, judgment in which was given by Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, on January 31, 1992, it was held that "due" in the phrase "all due expedition" where it occurred in section 8 of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968, as amended, meant "reasonable" or "proper".

On the face of it therefore, since the prosecution allowed the time limit to expire they failed to act with "due expedition" in procuring the applicant's re-arraignment. The purpose of the section was manifestly to ensure that the re-trial took place as soon as possible, but the means by which the section required that to be accomplished was by procuring the re-arraignment of the accused within the period of two months after an order of the court had been made pursuant to section 7 of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968.

The reason the prosecution did not act within the time limit was that the papers had gone astray. The prosecution could not therefore claim to have acted with due *expedition or any expedition.* On the face of it there was a plain and simple dereliction of duty for which the principal legal officer was responsible. There was no option but to grant the application.

The importance of the case might be gauged by the fact that *at the first trial the applicant was* sentenced to 10 years jail.

Solicitors: Durnford Ford; Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

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RENTALS

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Petition of Edinburgh Oil & Gas Plc a company incorporated under the Companies Acts and having its Registered Office at 10 Coates Crescent Edinburgh for confirmation of reduction of Share Premium Account.

The above Petition was presented to the Court of Session on 18 February 1992. An Interlocutor was pronounced on 20 February 1992 in the following terms:

"The Lords appoint the Petition to be intimated on the Walls of Court and in the Minute Book in common form and to be advertised once in each of the Edinburgh Gazette, the Scotsman and the Times newspapers: allow all parties claiming an interest to lodge Answers thereto, if so advised, within twenty one days after such intimation and advertisement"

"J A D Hope" IPD

of which intimation is hereby given

Shepherd & Wedderburn, Solicitors, 17 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh

Agents for Petitioners.

LEGAL NOTICES

CONCEPT SERVICES LIMITED
JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS
APPOINTED 19.12.91

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at 11.30 a.m. on Friday 6 March 1992 at Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ for the purpose of receiving a report prepared by the Joint Administrative Receivers and if thought fit to establish a committee ("the creditors committee") to exercise the functions conferred on it by or under the Insolvency Act 1986. Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged, together with any claim to be made by the creditor at the offices of the Joint Administrative Receivers, Cork Gully, Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ (Ref:SH318) no later than 12 noon on 5 March 1992.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.

Date 20 February 1992
J C M Bishop a3225
Joint Administrative Receiver

IN THE SOUTHEND COUNTY COURT NO 115 OF 1991
RE: FERRYGROWN LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT G C A Morphitis of Cape & Dalgleish of 401 St John's Street, London EC1V 4LH has been duly appointed as Liquidator of the above-named company with effect from 29 Jan '92.

On behalf of the Secretary of State
Date: 29 January 1992
G.C.A. Morphitis

JANE CROSTHWAITE RECRUITMENT LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)

Take notice that the undersigned, J C Heath of Haines Watts Insolvency Services, 61 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP, was appointed Liquidator of JANE CROSTHWAITE RECRUITMENT Limited by a resolution of a meeting of the company's creditors held on the 18th day of February 1992

J C Heath, Liquidator
Dated this 18th day of February 1992

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Appointment of Sole Liquidator and Notice to Creditors to Claim
Realm Engineering Limited (In Administrative Receivership)
Principal Trading Address: 8 Zig Nelton Avenue, Croydon, Surrey CR9 2JP
Company Number 3698068

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 3.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 3 February 1992 J P Richards was appointed liquidator of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).

Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to the liquidator at the following address under reference NDN/MJB
Touche Ross & Co.
PO Box 810 Friars Court,
65 Crutched Friars,
London EC3N 2NP.

Notice of Appointment of Sole Liquidator and Notice to Creditors to Claim
A J G Waters Limited
(In Administrative Receivership)
Principal Trading Address: 8-28 Nelton Avenue, Croydon, Surrey CR9 2JP
Company Number: 590159

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 3 February 1992 J P Richards was appointed liquidator of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).

Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to the liquidator at the following address under reference NDN/MJB
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65 Crutched Friars,
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Notice of Appointment of Sole Liquidator and Notice to Creditors to Claim
Realm Control Systems Limited (In Administrative Receivership)
Principal Trading Address: Shindle Way, Crawley, Sussex
Company Number: 1972912

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 3 February 1992 J P Richards was appointed liquidator of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).

Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to the liquidator at the following address under reference NDN/MJB
Touche Ross & Co.
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65 Crutched Friars,
London EC3N 2NP.

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
WINESAVE (HARROW) PLC
(IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
Registered number 1814724. Former company name: Winesave Cash & Carry (Harrow) Ltd. Trading name: Winesave (Harrow) plc Nature of business: Wine Wholesaler. Trade classification. 12. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 21 February 1992. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: M C Batten and J F Soden (office holder nos: 6705 and 6486). Address: Price Waterhouse No 1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
MINUTE TUNE LIMITED
Registered number. 1449929. Trading name. The Aerodrome Motor Company. Nature of business: Motor Engineers. Trade classification. 17. Date of appointment of administrative receivers 20th February 1992. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Lloyds Bank plc. Joint Administrative Receivers (in David Holland & John Sam uel Francis Bennett (office holder no: 006346 & 006393) Address: Casson Beckman & Partners Hobson House 155 Gower Street London WC1E 6BJ.

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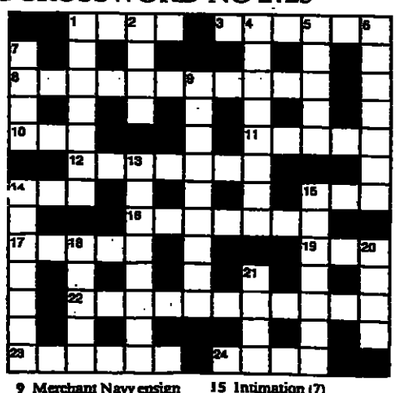
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Alekhine – Nestor, Trinidad 1939. Here, Alekhine exploited his opponent's weakness on the back rank with a superb combination. Can you do as well?

Solution below

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2725



ACROSS
1 Habitual procedure (4)
3 Result (6)
8 Startling occurrence (11)
10 Sheep noise (3)
11 Eskimo hut (5)
12 Muslim fast month (7)
14 Task (3)
15 Hostelry (3)
16 Wc tank (7)
17 Apple drink (5)
19 Royal Botanic Gardens (3)
22 Enterprise (11)
23 Nakedness (6)
24 S African mountain (4)

DOWN
1 Stage muttering (7)
2 Neat (4)
4 Roman Empire region (8)
5 Lodging house (5)
6 Violent tropical storm (7)
7 Jab (4)
9 Merchant Navy ensign (3,6)
13 Lsd tablet (8)
14 Hooded fancy pigeon (7)
15 Intimation (7)
18 Ancient Gaul priest (5)
20 Pay (4)
21 Urn (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 2724
ACROSS: 1 Quebec 5 Copy 8 Intro 9 Onerous 11 Hard cash 13 Cold 15 Prejudice 18 Look 19 Spell out 22 Prelims 23 Friar 24 User 25 Saxony
DOWN: 2 Utter 3 Boo 4 Cross purposes 5 Coed 6 Propose 7 Bight 10 Side 12 Chew 14 Will 15 Proteus 16 Flap 17 Stark 20 Orion 21 Kier 23 Fix

Solution: 1 Rc8! Rxc8 (If 1 . . . Qxd7 2 Qf8+!) 2 Qe7! leaves black without a defence.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

SATURDAY
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BBC 1

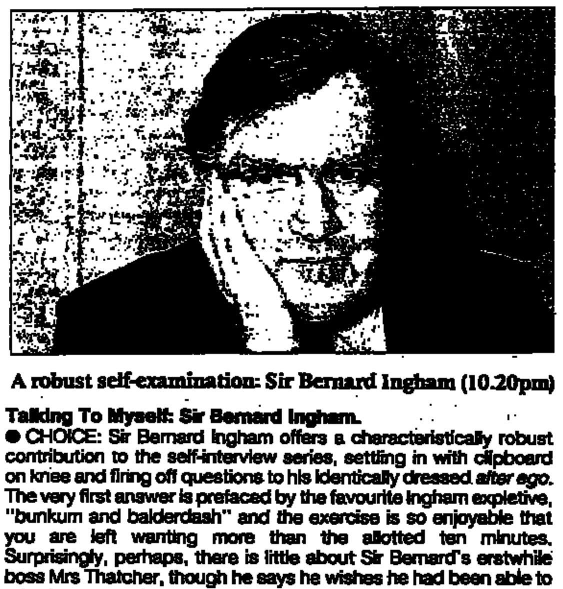
6.00 Ceefax (33060) **6.30 Breakfast News** (82817909)
9.05 Kilroy. To mark Elizabeth Taylor's birthday, Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on life after 60 (4787756) **9.50 Hot Chefs.** Ken Hom prepares pepper beef with basil (5785534)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (6542447) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (1232669) **10.25 Bump** (r) (6545534) **10.35 Young People Today.** Today Adrian Mills is joined by 100 six formers to discuss sex in the 1990s (5015805)
11.00 News, regional news and weather (7611640) **11.05 Beautywise.** The first of a new series about the beauty business, presented by Liz Earle and Karen Krizanovich (7919379) **11.30 People Today** (3695176)
12.20 Pebble Mill. Music and chat hosted by Alan Titchmarsh (3594640) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (90691282)
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather (96466)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (60713553) **1.50 Going for Gold.** With the voluble Henry Kelly (60724669)
2.15 Film: Underwater! (1955) starring Jane Russell and Richard Egan. Boisterous adventure yarn about the search for gold from a sunken galleon. Directed by John Sturges (187553)
3.50 Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams (s) (6470485) **4.05 Jackanory** (6977176) **4.20 The Further Adventures of SuperTed** (r) (9564060) **4.30 Dizzy Heights.** (Ceefax) (s) (2950195)
4.55 Newsround (3520669) **5.05 Blue Peter.** (Ceefax) (s) (5087756)
5.35 Neighbours. (r). (Ceefax) (s) (488195). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (756)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (468). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Top of the Pops (s) (4176)
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (992)
8.00 Last of the Summer Wine (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3824)

Playing the generation game: trials of a black family (8.30pm)

8.30 Us Girls.
● CHOICE: At first glance *Us Girls* may seem like a variant on *After Henry*, being another comedy of a three generation family in which a woman is trying to cope with an interfering mother and a rebellious teenage daughter. We are a bit lower in the social scale and the family is black, though little point is made of this in tonight's episode. Instead we have standard jokes about the generation gap and a rather strained plot about a burglar on the loose who shuts people in cupboards. On the early evidence *Us Girls* is a conventional, good-natured family sitcom which despite its ethnic flavour seems unlikely to break any moulds. In descending order of seniority the generations are represented by Mona Hammond, Joanne Campbell and Marlaine Gordon and the series is written by a newcomer to television, Lisselle Kayla (2331)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (8244)
9.30 Casualty: Cascade. An episode postponed from the last series about a plane on a holiday charter flight that gets into trouble over Holby. (Ceefax) (s) (729114)
10.20 Question Time. Peter Sissons's guests are Lord Rodgers and MPs Tom King, Ann Clwyd and Andrew Neale (127992). Northern Ireland: Spotlight 10.50-11.50 Question Time
11.20 Paradise. Return of the western series (310060)
12.10am Weather (7290480). Ends at 12.15
2.00 The Way Ahead (r) (3542596). Ends at 2.15

BBC 2

6.45 Open University: Practically Speaking (8937756). Ends at **7.10**
8.00 BBC Breakfast News (2074737)
8.15 Westminster. A round-up of the proceedings from both Houses (9099621)
9.00 Daytime on 2. Educational programmes
2.00 News and weather (10027350) followed by **You and Me.** Series for four and five-year-olds (74679466) **2.15 Advice Shop.** Includes a report on countrywide initiatives for tackling young people's homelessness (7254805)
3.00 News and weather (8413805) followed by **Westminster Live** introduced by Vivian White. Coverage of prime minister's question time (3713242) **3.50 News,** regional news and weather (7298534)
4.00 Bowls. Dougie Donnelly introduces action from the last pairs and singles quarter-final matches in the Midland Bank world indoor championships from Preston (22466)
5.30 Food and Drink. A repeat of Tuesday's 150th edition of the programme (s) (485)
6.00 Film: Bonanza — The Next Generation (1988) starring John Ireland and Robert Fuller. Disappointingly routine television movie based on the popular 1960s western series but with the old stars missing. The late Ben Cartwright's brother takes over the Ponderosa and foolishly gives the drilling rights to unscrupulous land-grabbers, precipitating a battle to save the ranch. Directed by an old *Bonanza* hand, Bill Claxton (32331). Wales: See Hear! 6.30 Deutsch Direkt 6.55 Advice Shop Extra 7.00 Bazaar 7.25-7.30 Experiment!
7.30 First Sight: The Jewels in the Crown? Michael Goldfarb reports on the concern over the maintenance of nine royal parks in and around London being taken over next week by private companies (534). Wales: Abroad in Britain; East: Matter of Fact; Midlands: Midlands Report; North, North-east and North-west: Close Up North; South: Southern Eye; South-west: Western Approach; West: Current Account
8.00 Abroad in Britain. Jonathan Meades looks at an architectural wonderland which lies west of the Black Country where houses were constructed between the wars from railway carriages and old buses (r). (Ceefax) (1466). Wales: How Green?
8.30 Top Gear. The first of a new series of the motoring magazine. Jeremy Clarkson investigates the rumour that the Ford Capri is set for a comeback; Chris Goffey looks at cult cars; and a car dealer reveals more tricks of the second hand trade (1783)
9.00 Red Dwarf V. Engaging science fiction comedy starring Chris Barrie and Craig Charles. (Ceefax) (9114)
9.30 Fire in the Blood: Changing Fortunes. Ian Gibson explores Spain's obsession with gambling. (Ceefax) (727756)



A robust self-examination: Sir Bernard Ingham (10.20pm)

10.20 Talking To Myself: Sir Bernard Ingham.
● CHOICE: Sir Bernard Ingham offers a characteristically robust contribution to the self-interview series, settling in with clipboard on knee and firing off questions to his identically dressed *alter ego*. The very first answer is prefaced by the favourite Ingham expletive, "bunkum and balderdash" and the exercise is so enjoyable that you are left wanting more than the allotted ten minutes. Surprisingly, perhaps, there is little about Sir Bernard's erstwhile boss Mrs Thatcher, though he says he wishes he had been able to relax her more. He spends most of the time castigating journalists, whom he describes as a bunch of moaners, while strenuously denying (of course) that he used to manipulate them. He also reveals a secret longing to sort out the British education system. Kenneth Clarke, you have been warned. (Ceefax) (948114)
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow (925756)
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (668973)
11.55 Weather (790027)
12.00 Weekend Outlook. A preview of the weekend's Open University programmes (7624916)
12.05am Open University: The Message of Starlight (5142732). Ends at 12.35

ITV

6.00 TV-am (9083737)
9.25 Lucky Ladders. Word association game show hosted by Lennie Bennett (s) (1807379) **9.55 Thames News** (4846176)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion series (6063535)
10.40 This Morning. Magazine presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Includes family health advice from Dr Chris Steele and programmes for children on half-term. With national and international news at **10.55** and regional news at **11.55** followed by national weather (3559263)
12.10 The Riddlers. Children's puppet series (2265805)
12.30 News with Alastair Stewart. (Oracle) Weather (6310263) **1.10 Thames News** (53260466)
1.20 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial. (Oracle) (97176195) **1.50 A Country Practice.** Medical drama series set in Flying Doctor country (52587089)
2.20 Snooker. Nick Owen introduces quarter-final action in the Pearl Assurance British open (8616089)
3.15 ITN News headlines (8423282) **3.20 Thames News** headlines (8420195) **3.25 The Young Doctors.** Australian medical drama (6836534)
3.55 Toucan Tecs. Animated adventures (s) (7284331) **4.05 Dangermouse.** Cartoon adventures of a secret agent rodent. With the voices of David Jason and Terry Scott (8366350) **4.30 Runaway Bay.** Adventure serial set on the Caribbean island of Martinique (s) (331) **5.00 Cartoon.** Featuring the Road Runner (r) (7283640)
5.10 Who's The Boss? American domestic comedy series starring Tony Danza as the male housekeeper with a woman employer (5071195)
5.40 News with Julia Somerville. (Oracle). Weather (635176)
5.55 Thames Help. Jackie Spreckley with news of friendship clubs (r) (974843)
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Oracle) (824)
6.30 Thames News. (Oracle) (176)
7.00 Emmerdale. Soap set in the Yorkshire Dales (9244)
7.30 In Search of Wildlife: The Great Bears of the Arctic. Wildlife artist David Shepherd travels to Churchill, Canada, to find and paint wild polar bears (r) (260)

Domestic squabble: Christopher Ellison as DI Burnside (8.00pm)

8.00 The Bill: Licence. Inspector Monroe and DI Burnside become involved in a domestic dispute between a man out of prison on licence and his son who comes down from the north to confront his father about his criminal past. (Oracle) (8992)
8.30 This Week: Violating Virgin. An investigation into claims by Richard Branson that British Airways is using underhand tactics to stop the expansion of his Virgin Atlantic airline. With reports from London, New York and Los Angeles. (Oracle) (7027)
9.00 LA Law: On the Toad Again. Glossy American courtroom drama series. (Oracle) (s) (2553)
10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville and Nicholas Owen. (Oracle) Weather (14640) **10.30 Thames News** (595114)
10.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H. Drama serial set in an Australian women's remand centre (757282)
11.35 Snooker. Further quarter-final coverage of the Pearl Assurance British open from Derby (543305)
12.30am Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Ancient Voices. A Hollywood lawyer strangles his clairvoyant wife and wishes he hadn't (34428)
1.00 Film: The Writing on the Blotting Paper (1990) starring François Perrot and Pascale Petit. Thriller from France about the death of a movie star during the filming of a murder scene. Directed by Pierre Boutron (391480)
2.40 The Twilight Zone: The Girl I Married. A couple in their mid-30s regret the changes in each other since they married (r) (8160645)
3.00 The Truth About Women. Eve Pollard discusses female friendship with Celia Brayfield, Angela Huth and Dilly Keane (89683)
3.30 Murphy's Law. Comedy drama series starring George Segal as an insurance investigator (69119)
4.30 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (80312)
5.00 Videofashion (r) (57596)
5.30 ITN Morning News with Tim Neilson (64157). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Channel 4 Daily (9081379)
9.25 Schools (94288621)
12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Sarah Baxter (11553)
12.30 Business Daily. News, comment and analysis from the world's money markets (28331)
1.00 Sesame Street. Entertaining early learning series (56114)
2.00 Film: I'll See You In My Dreams (1951, b/w) starring Danny Thomas and Doris Day. Musical biopic of songwriter Gus Kahn, from his humble beginnings in Chicago to fame and fortune in New York. Directed by Michael Curtiz (9466)
4.00 Time to Talk. Lesley Judd talks to former "Green Goddess" Diana Moran about her life and faith following the trauma of breast cancer (319)
4.30 Countdown. With Richard Whiteley (s) (973)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. The guests are men obsessed with the wrong women (7385534)
5.55 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon (972485)
6.00 The Crystal Maze. Six more contestants enter the four adventure time zones under the guidance of Richard O'Brien (r) (s) (36350)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather (504076) **7.50 Comment** (226398)
8.00 Free For All.
● CHOICE: The argument of an authentically rough-edged film in the viewer access slot is that unmarried fathers should enjoy the same rights and responsibilities as unmarried mothers. This passionate defence of the male is conducted by Andy, a London building surveyor who has lost contact with his children, and Jimmy, an unmarried dad from Scotland who has never seen his two-year-old son. The pair take their case to an expert and probably wish they hadn't. Professor Ruth Deech is principal of St Anne's College, Oxford, a specialist in family law and a traditionalist. She gives them a crisp lecture about irresponsible fathers and says that if people want equality in parenthood they should get married. The lads have a more sympathetic hearing from the Scottish Law Commission, which is edging towards their view (6534)
8.30 Vic Reeves Big Night Out. The last in the series of comedy sketches (r) (s) (5669)

Financing an opulent personal lifestyle: Peter Clowes (9.00pm)

9.00 The Barlow Clowes Affair.
● CHOICE: Financial journalist Laurence Lever offers a plain person's guide through one of the biggest frauds of recent memory. The essence of the scam was simple. Peter Clowes was supposed to be investing his clients' money in safe government stocks. In reality he was using it on his own dubious investments and to sustain an opulent personal lifestyle. But there was much more to it than that. Anyone who has wondered about bond washing or illegal share ramping or offshore shuffles will find all explained. Lever also asks why Clowes got away with it for so long. The Department of Trade and Industry is revealed as a notably feeble watchdog, while even the BBC's *Moneybox* is castigated for giving Clowes uncritical endorsement. Lever does not attempt to answer the most intriguing question. Why did Clowes *do* it, when he had the ability to make a fortune honestly? (9945)
10.00 Brides of Christ. The concluding episode of the drama set in a Sydney convent during the 1960s. (Teletext) (s) (1574466)
11.05 Just For Laughs. Clive Anderson introduces acts from the Montreal International Comedy Festival (s) (924602)
11.35 Russian New Music. Part five focuses on a duo from Leningrad, Vyacheslav Guyveronsky and Vladimir Volkov (355718)
12.05am Late Night Love. A frank study of prostitution in Hungary (6584136)
1.15 The Street. American police drama series. This episode is directed by Robert Altman (7425157). Ends at **1.40**

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SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (27103195) 8.40 Mrs Pepperpot (8699973) 8.55 Playabout (4057350) 9.10 Cartoons (4659379) 9.30 The New Leave It to Beaver (84911) 10.00 Maude (18756) 10.30 The Young Doctors (39973) 11.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (60621) 11.30 The Young and the Restless (51350) 12.30pm Barnaby Jones (79992) 1.30 Another World (4902263) 2.20 Santa Barbara (79734640) 2.45 Wife of the Week (924981) 3.15 The Brady Bunch (174404) 3.45 The DJ Kat Show (4061350) 5.00 Diff'rent Strokes (3973) 5.30 Bewitched (43756) 6.30 Candid Camera (1621) 7.00 Love at First Sight (3737) 7.30 Growing Pains (7805) 8.00 Full House (2485) 8.30 Murphy Brown (1992) 9.00 China Beach (17263) 10.00 Love at First Sight (54262) 10.30 Designing Women (30602) 11.00 Fashion TV (72602) 11.30 St Elsewhere (38355) 12.30am Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (1170447) 9.30 Nightline (82553) 10.00 Dayline (14398) 10.30 Beyond 2000 (60843) 11.00 Dayline (66268) 11.30 Newsline (59992) 12.30pm Good Morning America (77534) 1.30 Good Morning America (78263) 2.30 Parliament Live (3789008) 3.15 Parliament Live (6284640) 4.30 Beyond 2000 (4718) 5.00 Live at Five (44263) 6.30 Newsline (41973) 8.30 *Financial Times* Business Weekly (90737) 10.30 Newsline (36805) 11.30 ABC News (38337) 12.30am Newsline (29732) 1.30 ABC News (23867) 2.30 Those Were the Days (23428) 3.30 ABC News (95845) 4.30 *Financial Times* Business Weekly (53598) 5.30 Newsline (99683)

SKY MOVIES+

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am Showcase (4784114)
10.00 American Eyes (1989) (23534)
11.00 I Don't Know Who I Am (1980): A girl asks to find her real parents (43398)
12.00 Painting the Clouds with Sunshine (1951): Three sisters search for husbands (81060)
2.00pm The Girl from Mani (1986): A Greek village girl studies in Athens (51242)
4.00 A Green Journey (1990): A schoolteacher finally meets her pen-pal (93205517)
5.40 Entertainment Tonight (913466)
6.00 Fulfillment (1989): A farmer's wife yearns for a child (21466)
8.00 The Lost Capone (1990): Adrian Pasdar stars as Al Capone's youngest brother (28427282)
9.40 Projector (791008)
10.00 The Masque of the Red Death (1989): A new version of Edgar Allan Poe's tale (138244)
11.40 Edge of Sanity (1988): Reworking of the Jekyll and Hyde story (619973)
1.10am The Rainbow (1989): Sammi Davis stars in D.H. Lawrence's story (661751)
3.00 Do You Know the Muffin Man? (1990): An American boy is abused at a child daycare centre (86022)
4.30 Ghoulies (1985): Horror film (8554041). Ends at 5.50

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.15am White Cradle Inn (1947, b/w): Post-second world war drama (533992)
8.15 Time Fighters: Cartoon (641485)
10.15 San Francisco (1936, b/w): Romantic drama set in 1906 (39448176)
12.25pm Golden Pennies (1992): Australian gold rush adventure (954027)
2.15 Dark Victory (1939, b/w): Bette Davis is dying of a brain tumour (997176)
4.15 Oliver and the Artful Dodger: Animated musical (964973)
6.15 Columbo Goes to College (1991): Starring Peter Falk (984737)
8.15 Mrs Lambert Remembers Love (1991): A grandmother cares for her nine-year-old grandson (53690398)
10.05 The Principal (1987): James Belushi battles against school crime (987447)
12.00 Internal Affairs (1990): Andy Garcia investigates the criminal activities of policeman Richard Gere (93312)
2.00am Fighting Justice (1989): Lawyer James Woods defends an Asian (596751)
3.55 Debajo Del Mundo (1986): Story of a Jewish family living in Nazi-occupied Poland (716886). Ends at 5.35

THE COMEDY CHANNEL

● Via the Astra satellite.
4.00pm Mr Ed (2534) 4.30 Petticoat Junction (8718) 5.00 The New Leave it to Beaver (1553) 5.30 Greenacres (2398) 6.00 Here's Lucy (2911) 6.30 F Troop (3263) 7.00 McHale's Navy (8089) 7.30 The Addams Family (9447) 8.00 Dad's Army (7737) 8.30 It's Garry Shandling's Show (6244) 9.00 Hogan's Heroes (60605) 9.30 Here's Lucy (51379) 10.00 The Last Laugh (13621) 10.30 The Addams Family (39669)

SKY SPORTS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am World Cup Cricket: England v West Indies from Melbourne (1655843) 11.30 Netbusters (4376737) 11.55 Ford Snow Report (8520602) 12.00 Aerobics (70992) 12.30pm FA Cup Fifth-Round Replay (69466) 2.30 Netbusters (2036355) 2.55 Ford Snow Report (1656843) 3.00 Cricket: England v West Indies (2745008) 10.00 Ford Ski Report (41244) 11.00 European League Round-Up (62447) 12.00 Red Line (17916) 1.00-2.00am Inside Tennis (60954)

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Olympic Biathlon and Nordic Skiing (95911) 9.00 Horse Ball European Masters (33008) 10.00 Badminton (69114) 11.00 Figure Skating (53447) 1.00pm Badminton (12466) 2.00 Tennis (65824) 4.00 Trans World Sport (35195) 5.00 Tennis (86553) 7.00 Eurosport News (8447) 7.30 Basketball (59602) 9.00 Motorsport News (31379) 9.30 Boxing (66911) 11.00 Motor Racing Formula One Season Preview (36824) 11.30 Eurosport News (36992)

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am Eurobics (84669) 7.30 Warsteiner Ski Special (63176) 8.00 Gillette World Sports Special (75447) 8.30 US PGA Tour 1992 (69244) 9.30 Eurobics (28669) 10.00 Pre-Olympic Soccer Tournament (52060) 11.00 Matchroom Pro Box (59621) 1.00pm Show Jumping on Snow (18640) 2.00 Eurobics (1355) 2.30 Pre-Olympic Soccer (55027) 3.30 US Men's Pro Ski Tour (9669) 4.00 Longitude (8176) 4.30 NHL Ice Hockey (78756) 6.30 Argentine Soccer 1991/92 (30718) 7.30 Pre-Olympic Soccer (48973) 8.30 Ford Ski Report (47805) 9.30 Spanish Football (18529) 11.30-1.00am US Pro Indoor Championship (26027)

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
10.00am The Great American Gameshows (4197089) 10.50 Coffee Break (5707350) 10.55 Getting Fit with Denise Austin (4896602) 11.25 Wok with Yan (8882466) 12.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (6219534) 12.50pm Style File (42590718) 12.55 Search For Tomorrow (7802805) 1.20 Skyways (3828466) 2.20 Lifestyle Plus (23815911) 2.30 The Ants Room (4283669) 3.25 Best of Europe (6329824) 3.50 Tea Break (1634992) 4.00 WKRP in Cincinnati (3244) 4.30 The Great American Gameshows (2948553) 5.25 Doc (2306114) 6.00 Sell-a-Vision (4289466) 10.00 Jukebox Music Videos (7942485) 2.00am Last Jukebox Dance (89374)

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 6.25pm-7.00 Anglia News (442485) 7.30-8.00 In Time of War (260)

BORDER

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (5071195) 6.00 Lookaround Thursday (824) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (176) 7.30-8.00 In Time of War (260) 12.30 Film: Four for Texas (98747) 2.30 America's Top Ten (8654935) 2.55 Videofashion (2188732) 3.30 Cue the Music (6102577) 4.25-5.30 Film: The Case of the Black Cat* (5397577)

CENTRAL

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Blockbusters (5071195) 6.25-7.00 Central News (442485) 7.30-8.00 In Time of War (260) 10.40 Central Lobby (693008) 11.10-11.40 1st Night (925331) 12.30 Murphy's Law (85374) 1.30 Video View (89409) 2.30 America's Top Ten (36596) 3.00 Raw Power (62732) 4.00 Peppino (31041). 4.30-5.30 Central Jobfinder '92 (19136)

GRANADA

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Blockbusters (5071195) 6.30-7.00 Granada Tonight (176) 7.30-8.00 In Time of War (260) 10.40 The Equalizer (757282) 11.35 Lies (511447) 11.50 Snooker (239756) 12.30 Film: Four for Texas (98747) 2.30 Top Ten (8654935) 2.55 Videofashion (2188732) 3.30 Cue the Music (6102577) 4.25-5.30 Film: Case of the Black Cat* (5397577)

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors (52587089) 3.25-3.55 A Country Practice (6836534) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5071195) 6.00 HTV News (824) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (176) 7.30-8.00 In Time of War (260) 10.40 The West This Week (693008) 11.10-12.30 Snooker (579756)

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.30 Wales at Six 7.30-8.00 Wales & Westminster 10.40-11.10 Wales This Week

TSW

As London except: 3.23pm-3.55 Home and Away (6837263) 5.10-5.40 Take the High Road (5071195) 6.00 TSW Today (337398) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (176) 7.30-8.00 In Time of War (260) 12.30 Film: Four for Texas (98747) 2.30 America's Top Ten (8654935) 2.55 Videofashion (2188732) 3.30 Cue the Music (6102577) 4.25-5.30 Film: The Case of the Black Cat* (5397577)

TVS

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors (52587089) 3.25-3.55 Sons and Daughters (6836534) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5071195) 6.00 Coast to Coast (824) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (176) 7.30-8.00 A Taste of the South (260) 10.40 Alfred Hitchcock Presents (693008) 11.10 Snooker (579756) 12.30-1.00 Cover Story (Phyllis Diller) (34428)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Gardening Time (52587089) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5071195) 6.00 Northern Life (824) 6.30-7.00 England's Last Wilderness (176) 7.30-8.00 In Time of War (260) 10.40 Point of Order (693008) 11.10 Snooker (579756) 12.30 Film: Four for Texas (98747) 2.30 America's Top Ten (8654935) 2.55 Videofashion (2188732) 3.30 Cue the Music (6102577) 4.25-5.30 Film: The Case of the Black Cat* (5397577)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (5071195) 6.00 Calendar (824) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (176) 7.30-8.00 In Time of War (260) 10.40 Calendar Commentary (693008) 11.10 Snooker (579756) 12.30 Film: Crash! (860577) 2.10 Night Heat (3744480) 3.05 America's Top Ten (16147645) 3.35 CinemAttractions (38708935) 4.05 Music Box (1478208) 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder (4121770)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am C4 Daily (9081379) 9.25 Yagolion (94288621) 12.00 Parliament Programme (11553) 12.30 Newyddion (82547737) 12.40 Slot Meithrin (4115669) 1.00 Countdown (89176) 1.30 Business Daily (27602) 2.00 Third Wave with Mavis Nicholson (7251718) 2.45 Film: The Trial of Mary Dugan* (89004331) 4.25 Slot 23 (6055379) 5.00 The Wonder Years (6850) 5.30 Happy Days (553) 6.00 Newyddion (697282) 6.10 Heno (286114) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (8094) 7.30 Bwrw Mlaen (602) 8.00 Choca (8534) 8.30 Newyddion (720824) 8.55 Taro (723911) 9.25 Brides of Christ (5806911) 10.30 Film: The Smallest Show on Earth (4966981) 11.55 The Satellite Sky (786089) 12.55 Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 12.10pm Oireachtas Report (88500850) 1230 Look Here (1327008) 1.00 News (6373398) 1.30 Aertel Financial Pages (10328973) 1.35 Science, Technology and Everyday Life (98612195) 2.05 The Love Boat (8418244) 3.00 Live at Three (2007089) 4.00 News followed by Emmerdale (3668447) 4.30 South Riding (1273176) 5.15 Masterworks (50693824) 5.30 A Country Practice (3879911) 6.01 Six-One (5878282) 6.45 Garda Patrol (1863843) 7.00 Top of the Pops (8486089) 7.30 Opening Nights (3113824) 8.05 MacGyver (2767176) 9.00 News (2015008) 9.30 Today Tonight (7653534) 10.10 Challenging Times (1711973) 10.40 Booklines (8714718) 11.10 Love at First Sight (49299090) 11.35 News (5399027) 11.45 Close

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 4.00am Gary King (FM only) 6.00 Bruno Brookes 9.00 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Jakki Brambles 3.00 Nicky Campbell in the Afternoon 5.30 News '92 6.00 Jakki Brambles 7.30 Mark Goodier's Evening Session 9.00 The Rap Selection 10.00 Nicky Horne Goes into the Night 12.00-4.00am Bob Harris (FM only): Featuring Capercaillie (r) and Austin Delone in session

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 4.00am Steve Madden: The Early Show 6.15 Pause for Thought 6.30 Brian Hayes: Good Morning UK! 8.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Barbara Sturgeon 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 The News Huddlines: Topical sketch show 7.30 Wally Whyton: Emmylou Harris and her band the Nash Ramblers, in concert at the Festival Hall, London 9.00 Paul Jones 10.00 Six Silver Strings: Charles Alexander presents guitar music (2 of 6) 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Jazz Parade 12.35 Alex Lester with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until 7.00pm. 6.00am World Service: World News; 6.09 News about Britain; 6.15 The World Today 6.30 Danny Baker's Morning Edition 9.00 Take Five 10.25 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 10.40 Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative 12.30pm In the Hot Seat 1.00 News Update 1.15 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (r) 1.30 BFBS Worldwide: Simon and the Squad 2.30 World Service: World News; 3.05 Outlook; 3.30 Meridian Feature; 4.05 Assignment 4.35 Five Aside 7.15 The Cricket in Times Square 7.30 The Silver Sword: Second and final part of a dramatisation of Ian Serraillier's story 8.00 Formula Five 8.30 Vibal Caron Keating looks at fashion 9.30 Fashion Icons: Jeans (2 of 6) 10.10 Eastern Beat, incl 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10am News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am World Business Report 4.40 Travel and Weather News 4.45 News and Press Review in German 5.00 Morgenmagazin 5.20 Tips für Touristen 5.24 News in German 5.30 Europe Today 5.58 Weather 6.00 World News 6.09 News About Britain 6.15 The World Today 6.30 Londres Matin 6.59 Weather 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Network UK 8.00 World News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 Good Books 9.00 World News 9.05 World Business Report Live 9.15 From Our Own Correspondent 9.30 The Farming World 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 News Summary 10.01 Assignment 10.30 Frank Muir Goes Into... 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Londres Midi 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 11.59 Weather 12.00 World News 12.09pm News About Britain 12.15 Multitrack 2 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Outlook Live 2.30 Off the Shelf: A Passage to India 2.45 Recording of the Week 3.00 World News 3.15 Music with Matthew 4.00 World News 4.09 News About Britain 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 World News and Business Report 5.15 The World Today 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 BBC English 6.29 News Summary 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German Features 7.54 News in German 8.00 World News and Business Report 8.15 Londres Dernière 8.30 Europe Tonight 9.00 Newshour 10.00 World News 10.09 News About Britain 10.15 Network UK 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 World News 11.05 World Business Review 11.15 Music Review 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am Rossini and His World 1.00 News Summary 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Seven Seas 1.45 Global Concerns 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 September Song 3.00 News 3.09 Words of Faith 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Focus on Faith 4.00 News 4.15 Mastersingers

RADIO 3

3.25am-11.20am World Cup Cricket (MW only): England v West Indies in Melbourne
6.55am Weather; News Headlines (FM only)
7.00 Morning Concert (FM only): Mendelssohn (String Symphony No 12 in G minor: Primavera CO under Paul Manley); Roussel (Divertissement, Op 6: Pascal Rogé, piano, Catherine Cantin, flute, Maurice Bourgue, oboe, Michel Portal, clarinet, Amaury Wallez, bassoon; André Cazalet, horn)
7.30 News (FM only)
7.35 Morning Concert (FM only) (cont): Sibelius (Suite caractéristique, Op 100: Gothenburg SO under Neeme Järvi); Saint-Saëns (Piano Trio, Op 18: Ian Brown, piano, Marcia Crayford, violin, Christopher van Kampen, cello); Grieg (Four Songs, Op 21: Marianne Hirsti, soprano, Rudolf Jansen, piano); Ibert (Capriccio: Jean-Walter Audoli Ensemble under Jean-Walter Audoli)
8.30 News (FM only)
8.35 Composers of the Week (FM only): Rossini — The Operas of 1819: Excerpts from *Ermione*, *La Donna del Lago* and *Bianca e Faliero*. With Katia Ricciarelli, Cecilia Gasdia, Della Jones and Chris Merritt
9.35 Morning Sequence (FM only until **11.20am**): Weber (Overture, Oberon: Philharmonia Orchestra under Otto Klemperer); Spohr (Symphony No 6 in G, Historical: Bavarian RSO under Karl Anton Rickenbacher); Schumann (12 Poems of Justinus Kerner, Op 35: Doris Soffel, mezzo-soprano, Aribert Reimann, piano); Brahms (Piano Trio in B, Op 8: Beaux Arts Trio); Mendelssohn (Overture, A Midsummer Night's Dream. Philharmonia Orchestra under Otto Klemperer)
11.55 Ulster Orchestra under Bryden Thomson performs Dvořák (Overture, My Homeland; Symphony No 6 in D, Op 60) (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 Birmingham Lunchtime Concert: Live from Studio One, Pebble Mill. The cellist Ulrich Heinen and the pianist Frank Wibaut play Debussy (Sonata in D minor); Hindemith (Sonata, Op 11 No 3); Webern (Three Little Pieces, Op 11; Sonata Fragment); Janáček (Pohádka)
2.05 Gounod's Faust: Chorus of the French Army; Toulouse Capitole Chorus and Orchestra under Michel Plasson perform Gounod's five-act opera to a libretto after Goethe by Jules Barbier and Michel Carré. Sung in French. With Richard Leech, tenor, as Faust; Cheryl Studer, soprano, as Marguerite; and José Van Dam, bass-baritone, as Méphistophélès
5.30 Mainly for Pleasure, with Richard Baker
7.00 News
7.05 Third Ear: Clive Gillinson, managing director of the London Symphony Orchestra, talks about his long-term financial and artistic strategies to Andrew Green
7.30 Royal Scottish Orchestra: Live from Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Jansug Kakhidze conducts Borodin (In the Steppes of Central Asia); Schumann (Piano Concerto in A minor, Op 54: Christian Blackshaw). **8.15** Stephen Johnson, Edward Downes and Gerard McBurney discuss Rachmaninov's legacy as a symphonist. **8.35** Rachmaninov (Symphony No 2 in E minor, Op 27)
9.50 Music in Our Time: Live from Studio One, Pebble Mill, Birmingham. As part of the Barber Festival of Contemporary Music, Beast (Birmingham Electro-Acoustic Sound Theatre) under Jonty Harrison performs Beast (PulseRates); Denis Smalley (Valley Flow); Horacio Vaggione (Octuor); Jonty Harrison (. . . et ainsi de suite . . .). All first time broadcasts
11.00 Cool and Crazy: The final programme in which the American trumpeter and composer Shorty Rogers talks to Alyn Shipton (r)
11.30 News
11.35-12.35am Composers of the Week: J.S. Bach (Cantata No 147, Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben; Cello Suite in D, BWV 1012) (r)

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM
5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day (s) **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Face the Facts (r)
9.30 Two People: In the final programme, Colin Semper meets two people who each face the prospect of having to devote many years to caring for elderly parents. Should they place them in a home? (r)
10.00-10.30am Charity Ends at Home (FM only): Second of a six-part dramatisation of one of Colin Watson's Flaxborough Chronicles (s)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 The Bible (LW only): Isaiah. Read by David Neal (6 of 16)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray talks to the novelist Marina Warner, incl **11.00** News
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 You and Yours
12.25pm Back to Square One: Chris Serle chairs the word game. Team captains Leslie Thomas and Pam Ayres are joined by Sid Waddell and Jane Reed (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 The Raspberry Garden: In Judith Armstrong's play, ten-year-old Fanny (Jane Hartoch) confides in Peter (Steve Hodson), her mother's lover, about her vision in the Raspberry Garden (s)
3.00 Down Your Way (FM only): Clay Jones in Ebbw Vale (r)
3.45-4.00 Poetry Please! (FM only) (s)
3.00 Prime Minister's Questions (LW only)
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope reviews the National Theatre's production of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* at the Cottesloe Theatre; talks to Greil Marcus about his book, *Dead Elvis*; and listens to the Cowboy Junkies (s)
4.45 Short Story: Singing for the Glory of God, by Jenny Hursell. Read by Delia Corrie
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The Blackburn Files: A Case of a Golden Smile. Private detective Stephen J. Blackburn investigates the third of four cases (s) (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Soundtrack (FM only): Blitz Kids
● CHOICE: School history lessons do not come more realistically packaged than this one in which Norfolk children were asked to imagine they were evacuees, vintage 1940. They were sent to a holding centre, underwent air raid drill, were barked at by "army" officers, had their heads inspected for nits, taught to sing "Run, Rabbit, Run", and sat in on the arrest of a German spy and the capture of an enemy parachutist. The latter two sweeteners presumably stanched the tears of the girl whose chief woe was not the frightening bombing raid but her teddy bear's severed head
7.20 Woman's Hour (LW only) (r)
8.00 Analysis: Sticks and Stones. Peter Hennessy chairs a discussion on the politics of language, with Professor Bernard Williams, Renford Bambrough and Edward Pearce
8.45 My Four Green Fields: Munster — Kilcrohane. In his final talk about Ireland's four provinces, the novelist Joseph Hone visits Sheep's Head peninsula in west Cork
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? Magazine for disabled listeners
9.30 Kaleidoscope (s) (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight (s) **9.58** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: The Last Days of William Shakespeare, by Vlady Kociancich (4 of 10)
11.00 Whip Hand: Fourth of a five-part dramatisation of Dick Francis's novel (s) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** World Service (LW only)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; World Service: MW 648kHz/463m.

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